

















PRINTED FOR THE MALONE SOCIETY BY  
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# COLLECTIONS

## PART II

THE MALONE SOCIETY

*Temporary Title-page |*

1908



This Second Part of the Society's *Collections* is continuous with the first. When sufficient parts have appeared to form a substantial volume an index and preliminary matter will be issued.

*June 1909.*

W. W. Greg, *Gen. Ed.*





# CONTENTS

|   | PAGE |
|---|------|
| Notes on the Society's Publications . . . . .   | 101  |
| Rules for Editors of the Society's Reprints . . . . .   | 113  |
| Robin Hood and the Sheriff of Nottingham, a dramatic fragment,<br>c. 1475 . . . . .                   | 117  |
| A Play of Robin Hood for May-Games, printed by Copland, c. 1560                                       | 125  |
| The Play of Lucrece, a fragmentary interlude printed c. 1530 .  | 137  |
| Dramatic Records from the Lansdowne Manuscripts. Edited by<br>E. K. Chambers and W. W. Greg . . . . . | 143  |

\* \* Except where otherwise stated the responsibility for  
contributions rests with the General Editor.



## NOTES ON THE SOCIETY'S PUBLICATIONS

As the result of its second year's work the Malone Society has again issued six publications. These consist of reprints of the five plays, *Calisto and Melebea*, *Selinus*, *Locrine*, the *Old Wives Tale*, and *Sir John Oldcastle*, and this further part of the Society's *Collections*, the bulk of which is composed of documents from the Lansdowne Manuscripts at the British Museum. The General Editor wishes to place on record the help he has received from members and others in the prosecution of the work of the Society and his hearty thanks for the same.

There are one or two points in connection with the publications of 1907 which deserve remark. In the note prefixed to the *Battle of Alcazar* it is written: 'Malone first ascribed the *Battle of Alcazar* to George Peele, on what grounds is not known. His conjecture was confirmed by Dyce, who pointed out that six lines from the play (ll. 467-72) are quoted above Peele's name in *England's Parnassus* (1600, s. v. Country). Such an attribution is not, indeed, indisputable evidence, but in the present case there is no reason to suppose it incorrect.' When penning these lines the editor was under the impression that, of the attributions to Peele in *England's Parnassus*, none was demonstrably in conflict with other evidence. But this is not so; for one of them consists of a line from *Orlando Furioso*, which, as the editor duly pointed out in our reprint, there is contemporary evidence for ascribing to Robert Greene. It is clear that this invalidates the evidence either of *England's Parnassus* or of the *Defence of Cony-Catching*; and there can be little question that it is the former, which has been

repeatedly shown up in other points, that must go by the board. It seems worth while, in view of several of the plays printed by the Society, to reproduce in this place all the quotations given in *England's Parnassus* above the name of Peele, together with identifications of the same. In this matter the editor has received valuable help from Mr. Charles Crawford, the results of whose laborious researches into the subject were most kindly placed at his disposal. It should be remarked that Dyce supported his attribution of the *Battle of Alcazar* to Peele with a number of parallels, and that the inaccuracy of *England's Parnassus*, though it invalidates the evidence, by no means disposes of the attribution.

*ENGLAND'S PARNASSUS, 1600.*

ATTRIBUTIONS TO G. PEELE

(where the quotation differs materially from the original the readings of the latter are added to the reference).

*Beautie.* [sig. C1<sup>v</sup>; Collier, p. 22.]

All men do erre, because that men they bee,  
And men with Beautie blinded, cannot see.

[*Tale of Troy*, 1589, sig. B2, ll. 119-20. 'But men muft erre . . . with loue yblinded']

*Country, common-weale.* [sig. D3; Collier, p. 45.]

We muft affect our Country as our parents,  
And if at any time we alienate  
Our loue or induftry from doing it honor,  
It muft respect effects and touch the foule,  
Matter of confcience and religion,  
And not defire of rule or benefit.

[*Battle of Alcazar*, 1594, sig. C1, ll. 467-72.]

*Fame.* [sig. F7v; Collier, p. 93.]

Fame in a stoale of purple fet with eies,  
And eares, and tongues, caried a golden booke,  
Vpon the couer, this I sawe engrau'd.

*Pauci quos æquus amavit*

*Iupiter, aut ardens euerit ad æthera virtus*

*Dij geniti.* [—*Aeneid*, vi. 129.]

[*Honour of the Garter*, n.d., sig. A4, ll. 172-7. 'cucxit' ]

*Loue.* [sig. N1; Collier, p. 208.]

At Venus intreatie for Cupid her sonne,  
These arrowes by Vulcan were cunningly done :  
The first is Loue, as here you may behold,  
His feathers head and body are of gold.  
The second shaft is Hate, a foe to loue,  
And bitter are his torments for to proue.  
The third is Hope, from whence our comfort springs,  
His feathers are puld from Fortunes wings.  
Fourth, Iealousie in basest mindes doth dwell,  
This mettall Vulcans Cyclops sent from hell.

[From the lost *Hunting of Cupid*, cf. Drummond MS.  
*apud* Bullen, ii. 368.]

*Man.* [sig. O2; Collier, p. 229.]

Like as the fatall rauē that in his voyce  
Carries the dreadfull summons of our deaths,  
Flies by the faire Arabian spiceries,  
Her pleasant gardens and delightfull parts,  
Seeming to curse them with his hoarse exclames :  
And yet doth stoupe with hungry violence,  
Vpon a peece of hatefull carrion.  
So wretched man displea'd with those delights,  
Would yeeld a quickning fauour to his soule,

Purfues with eager and vnstanch'd thirst,  
The greedy longings of his loathsome flesh.

[*David and Bethsabe*, 1599, sig. D1, Chorus II. 'delight-  
some parkes']

*Miserie.* [sig. O6<sup>v</sup>; Collier, p. 240.]

... The mightiest that haue liu'd,  
Haue false and headlong too, in Miserie,  
It is some comfort to haue companie.

[*Honour of the Garter*, n.d., sig. C1<sup>v</sup>, ll. 246-8.]

*Parents.* [sig. Q2; Collier, p. 268.]

... Parents thoughts in loue, oft steppes awry.

[*Orlando Furioso*, 1594, sig. B1<sup>v</sup>, l. 143.]

*Thoughts.* [sig. T6; Collier, p. 335.]

The feeble eyes of our aspiring thoughts,  
Behold things present, and record things past,  
But things to come exceede our humane reach.

[*David and Bethsabe*, 1599, sig. H3, Scene xv.]

The diuision of the day naturall.—*Mane.* [sig. Y4<sup>v</sup>; Collier, p. 387.]

The gaudie morne out of her golden sleepe  
Awake, and little birdes vncagde gan sing,  
To welcome home the bride-groome of the sea.

[*Honour of the Garter*, n.d., sig. D1, ll. 422-4.]

ditto.—*Vesper.* [sig. Y7; Collier, p. 394.]

About the time when *Vesper* in the West,  
Gan set the euening watch, and silent night,  
Richly attended by his twinckling traine,  
Sent sleepe and slumber to possesse the world,

And fantasie to hawzen idle heades,  
Vnder the stately Canopie of heauen,  
I layd me downe laden with many cares.  
• [*Honour of the Garter*, n.d., sig. B1, ll. 1-7.]

ditto.—*Noctis initium*. [sig. Y7<sup>v</sup>; Collier, p. 395.]

— Cynthia companion of the night,  
With shining brand lighting his eben carre,  
Whose axeltree was iet auchact with starres,  
And roofe with shining rauens feathers cealed,  
Piercing my eye lids as I lie along,  
Awaked me through.  
[*Honour of the Garter*, n.d., sig. B1, ll. 21-6. 'lightning  
... enchac'd']

Poeticall Descriptions.—*Renowne*. [sig. Bb7; Collier, p. 444.]

A trump more shrill then Tritons on the Sea,  
The said *Renowne* precursour of the traine,  
Did found (for who rings louder then Renowne :)  
He mounted was vpon a flying horse,  
And cloath'd in Faulcons feathers to the ground,  
By his Escochion iustly might you gesse,  
He was the Herauld of Eternity,  
And Purfeuant at Armes to mightie *Ioue*.  
[*Honour of the Garter*, n.d., sig. B1<sup>v</sup>, ll. 50-7. 'is at Sea,  
The fame . . . Phawcons']

ditto.—*Discriptions of Beautie & personage*. [sig. Cc7;  
Collier, p. 461.]

Fayrer then Ifaacks loue at the vvell,  
Brighter then inside barke of new hewen Cedar,

Sweeter then flames of fire-perfumed Mirrhe,  
 And comlier then the siluer clowdes that daunce  
 On *Zephyrus* wings before the King of heauen.

[*David and Bethsabe*, 1599, sig. B2, scene i. 'fine perfumed  
 . . . Zephires']

One point should also be mentioned in connection with the first Part of the Society's *Collections*. Of the *Prodigal Son* fragment Dr. Jenkinson writes: 'It ought to have been presented to U L C in time for you to describe it as there: I have done so now.' Its press-mark in the University Library, Cambridge, is Syn. 5. 53. 4. The story, of course, is the same as in Thomas Ingelend's *Disobedient Child*, printed by Colwell at some date after 1560, but the dramatic career of the Prodigal Son still remains to be worked out. According to Brandl (*Quellen des weltlichen Dramas*, lxxiii) the *Disobedient Child* is based on the *Studentes* of Christopherus Stymmelius, or Stummelius, itself an imitation of Gnaphaeus' *Acolastus*. The indebtedness of the *Studentes* is obvious on the face of it and has been repeatedly noticed (e.g. Herford, *Literary Relations*, 156; Creizenach, *Geschichte des neueren Dramas*, ii. 169). There are, however, great differences between the two plays, for what in the hands of Gnaphaeus remained close to the moral interlude, with Stymmelius became really a comedy of intrigue. Ingelend's play does not attach itself very intimately to either of the Latin pieces; but in structure it is certainly nearer to *Acolastus*, and if the influence of the *Studentes* is present at all it is confined to incidental passages. There are, moreover, far clearer traces of another Latin model, namely Ravisius Textor's dialogue *Juvenis, Pater, et Uxor*. It will be noticed that the wood-selling, common to the English pieces, occurs in neither of the Latin plays mentioned above. The origin of this is to be found in the Dialogue, in which the wife bids her husband put a pack-saddle on his back and carry round wood for sale: 'Hias clitellas humeris superpone, ac lignum venale compitatum deferas,



quo nostrum vtriq; victum quærites. Perge nigot' (ed. London, Bynneman, 1581, sig. G4). Ingelend makes her say :

Laye these Faggottes man vpon thy shoulder  
 And carye thys wood from streete to strete :  
 To sell the same, that we both togyther,  
 Our lyuyinge may get, as is most mete.  
 Hence Nidiot hence, without more delaye  
 What meanest thou thus, to stagger and staye ?  
 sig. E4v; Hazlitt's Dodsley, ii. 303.

In the fragment this hint is of course developed into an elaborate episode, which shows either that the two English versions are independent, or else that the later printed is in fact the earlier in date of composition.

Turning to the publications of the present year we have first, in chronological order, the interlude of *Calisto and Melebea*. With regard to the relation between this and its source, the Spanish *Celestina*, and the question whether the English poet used the original or a translation, the curious may be referred to A. S. W. Rosenbach's article on 'The Influence of the *Celestina* in the Early English Drama' in the *Shakespeare-Fahrbuch* for 1903 (xxxix. 43) and to Appendix III in H. Warner Allen's recent edition of Mabbe's *Celestina* where it is conclusively shown that our interlude agrees with the original Spanish against all known translations which its author could have seen. Rosenbach also mentions 'A Comodie of Bewtie and Huswyfery' acted by Lord Hunsdon's men at Windsor, 27 December 1582 (cf. Feuillerat, *Revels*, 349); but, as Allen observes, there hardly seems sufficient reason to connect it with the play in question. *Calisto and Melebea* occupies a unique position in the English drama, for it is the only extant example of a story of romantic interest treated in the literary form of the interlude. We know, however, that it was not always unique, for a solitary fragment of another piece belonging to the class is preserved in the British Museum. This is the

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*Play of Lucrece*, which will be found reprinted below in so far as it has survived.

Next come two plays round which much controversy has centred, the *First Part of the Tragical Reign of Selimus* and the *Lamentable Tragedy of Locrine*. As mentioned in the introductory note to the latter, there is some evident but undetermined connection between these two pieces. Although it is impossible at the moment to regard any of the conclusions arrived at as other than tentative, current critical opinion seems inclined to connect the former play with the name of Robert Greene and the latter with that of George Peele. There are, however, dissentients. Grosart, who identified two out of the six quotations in *England's Parnassus*, supported his attribution of *Selimus* to Greene with a few striking parallels. Their cogency was denied by Churton Collins, who excluded *Selimus* from his edition of Greene's plays apparently on the ground that as good a case could be made out for the inclusion of *Locrine*. Mr. Tucker Brooke, on the other hand, would confidently assign both plays to Greene, while Mr. Crawford has put forward an ingenious if not wholly convincing argument for regarding *Selimus* as an early work of Marlowe's. Lastly, mention should be made of a curious note of Collier's (*Bibliographical Account*, i. 95). After quoting an autograph inscription by Sir George Buck in a copy of his *Δάφνις Πολυστέφανος* he proceeds: 'A comparison with this specimen of the Penmanship of the Master of the Revels leaves no doubt that the inscription on an existing copy of the play of *Locrine*, 4to. 1595, assigning the authorship of it to Charles Tylney, is the handwriting of Sir George Buck. He adds the information that he himself had written the "dumb shews" by which it was illustrated, and that it was originally called *Elstrild*. Charles Tylney was brother to Edmond Tylney, who had preceded Sir George Buck as Master of the Revels. The interesting question of the authorship of "*Locrine*", falsely imputed to Shakespeare, is thus decided.' The last statement is in Collier's happiest vein. Charles was the cousin, not brother, of Edmund Tylney, and

was executed for his share in Babington's conspiracy in 1586. F. G. Fleay queries whether 'by Charles Tylney' might not rather mean 'concerning' him, and suggests political allusions in the epilogue (V. vii).

Into the detail of the arguments for the various ascriptions, and into the parallels with the works of Greene on the one hand and Peele on the other, it is impossible to enter here. It may, however, be of interest to collect the various passages which establish a direct connection between the two plays. These have been gathered from the notes published by Churton Collins (*Greene*, i. 64), Charles Crawford (*Collectanea*, i. 47), and Emil Koeppel (*Shakespeare-Fahrbuch*, xli. 193), but only those which appeared really significant have been reproduced.

SELIMUS, 1594.

Whose onely name affrightes your enemies  
—l. 181.

Ide dart abroad the thunderbolts of warre,  
And mow their hartlesse squadrons to the ground.  
—ll. 415-6.

Chiefe p[r]atroneffe of *Rhamus* golden gates  
—l. 677.

And t'were a trick of an vnsetled wit  
Because the bees haue stings with them alway,  
To f[e]are our mouthes in honie to embay.  
—ll. 823-5.

Send out thy furies from thy fire hall,  
The pitilesse *Ery[m]nies* arm'd with whippes,  
And all the damned monstres of black hell  
—ll. 1318-20.

More bloodie then the *Anthropo[m]phagi*  
—l. 1420.

Now fit I like the arme-strong son of *Ioue*  
[i.e. Hercules] —l. 1671.

Now *Baiaset* will ban another while,  
And vtter curses to the concaue skie,  
Which may infect the regions of the ayre,  
And bring a generall plague on all the world.  
—ll. 1803-6.

LOCRINE, 1595.

Whose only lookes did fcarre his enemies  
—l. 27.

Darteth abroad the thunderbolts of warre . . .  
Mouing the malsie squadnants of the ground  
—ll. 804-7.

If she that rules faire *Rhamnis* golden gate  
—l. 478.

He is not worthie of the honie combe  
That shuns the hiues because the bees haue stings  
—ll. 1116-7.

Come fierce *Erinnis* horrible with fnakes,  
Come vgly Furies, armed with your whippes  
—ll. 1316-7.

Or where the bloodie *Anthropo[m]phagi*  
—l. 1329.

The armestrong offspring of the doubted knight  
[= doubled night], Stout *Hercules* —l. 1253.

That I might with the arme-strong *Hercules*  
—l. 1000.

Where I may damne, condemne and ban my fill,  
The heauens, the hell, the earth, the aire, the fire,  
And vtter curses to the concaue skie,  
Which may infect the aiery regions  
—ll. 1303-6.

lieue in daily feare of the breach of my wiues ten-commandemens . . . when my wife begins to plaie clubbes trumpe with me . . .

Sir knaue she cries, where haue you bin ?  
—ll. 1881-92.

Of thy magnifick deeds, whose lasting praife  
Mounteth to highest heauen with golden wings.  
—ll. 2025-6.

As those old earth-bred brethren, which once  
Heape[d] hill on hill to scale the starrie skie,  
When *Briareus* arm'd with a hundreth hands,  
Flung forth a hundreth mountaines at great *Ioue*,  
And when the monstros giant *Monichus*  
Hurld mount *Olimpus* at great *Mars* his targe,  
And darted cedars at *Mineruas* shield.

—ll. 2423-9.

Thou that resoluest in peremptorie tearmes,  
To call him boy that scornes to cope with thee :  
But thou canst better vse thy bragging blade,  
Then thou canst rule thy ouerflowing tongue,  
Soone shalt thou know . . .

—ll. 2455-9.

Thou drunken knaue where hast thou bin so long ? . . .  
and so thee began to play knaues trumps . . . fearing  
she would set her ten commandemens in my face  
—ll. 1613-8.

The Troyans glorie flies with golden wings  
—l. 91.

Heape hills on hills, to scale the starrie skie,  
When *Briareus* armed with an hundreth hands  
Floong forth an hundreth mountains at great *Ioue*,  
And when the monstros giant *Monichus*  
Hurld mount *Olimpus* at great *Mars* his targe,  
And shot huge cedars at *Mineruas* shield  
—ll. 808-13.

Nor wreake I of thy threats thou princex boy,  
Nor do I feare thy foolish infolencie,  
And but thou better vse thy bragging blade,  
Then thou doest rule thy ouerflowing toong,  
Superbious Brittain, thou shalt know too soone . . .  
—ll. 791-5.

It should be remarked that in the second quotation given above the correspondence of the two passages rather suggests that in *Locrine* 'Mouing' may be a mere slip for 'Mowing'; also that there is a general similarity of the comic interludes quite apart from any specific parallels. It may likewise be worth noting that, while the passages from *Selimus* appear disjointed, there are two clear groups traceable in those from *Locrine*, comprising ll. 791-813 and 1303-29. It seems *a priori* rather more reasonable to expect a borrower to scatter than to collect, a consideration which suggests that *Locrine* was the earlier of the two plays. Moreover, one passage in *Locrine* is obviously borrowed and corrupted from Greene's *Menaphon* (ed. Grosart, vi. 89), 'another *Alcides* (the arme-strong darling of the doubled night)', and is, therefore, independent of *Selimus*, which may, consequently, have been of later date. This, however, opens up a wide field of speculation.

In connection with *Sir John Oldcastle* the editor is indebted to the President for drawing his attention to a record in the

Sidney Papers (A. Collins, *Letters and Memorials of State*, 1746, ii. 175). The passage occurs in a letter written to Sir Robert Sidney by Rowland White from Baynard's Castle on Saturday, 8 March 1599/1600, and runs: 'All this Weeke the Lords haue bene in *London*, and past away the Tyme in Feasting and Plaies; for *Vereiken* dined vpon *Wednesday*, with my Lord Treasurer, who made hym a Roiall Dinner; vpon *Thursday* my Lord Chamberlain feasted hym, and made hym very great, and a delicate Dinner, and there in the After Noone his Plaiers acted, before *Vereiken*, Sir *John Old Castell*, to his great Contentment.' It will be remembered that *Sir John Oldcastle* was written in the autumn of 1599 for the Lord Admiral's men and is found a few years later in the possession of the Earl of Worcester's. It is hardly conceivable that it should have been in the hands of the Lord Chamberlain's men early in 1600. On the whole, perhaps, the probable explanation is that by '*Sir John Old Castell*' White meant Shakespeare's *Henry IV*, but it is a little remarkable that the original name of the character should survive even in a popular name for the play, since that of Sir John Falstaff had certainly been substituted by 25 February 1598, when the first part of Shakespeare's play was entered in the Stationers' Register.

The amount of labour expended by Mr. Simpson on this play is but poorly represented by the brief notes prefixed to the Society's reprint. A detailed collation of the quartos and folios extending to the smallest minutiae underlies the published lists of readings, in which are included only those variants which seemed of some importance. A rough indication of the several types of divergence has been given, but the rule which confines our introductory notes so far as possible to matters of ascertained fact precluded any speculation as to the reasons for the alterations in the second quarto. All attempt at distinguishing the parts due to the several authors lay equally beyond the scope of the work. It had been hoped, indeed, that some discussion of the question might have found a place here, but the various apparent clues led to such contradictory results that after

expending considerable labour in vain Mr. Simpson had to relinquish his attempt. Some incidental discoveries were, however, made, and it is to be hoped that an opportunity may before long occur for a discussion of the various problems connected with the play.

The remaining reprint of the year, namely Peele's *Old Wives Tale* from the quarto of 1595, does not call for comment, except to note that after some hesitation the editor decided to retain the non-committal spelling of the original title.

In order that students using the Society's reprints may have a clear idea of the relation in which these stand to the originals, it has been thought well to include in the present Part of our *Collections* the Rules drawn up by the General Editor for the guidance of those responsible for the texts of individual plays. These are of necessity rather lengthy and complicated, since many points of detail had to be considered, but it is hoped that they will be found clear to a careful reading, and that the reasons upon which they are based will also be tolerably apparent.

# RULES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF EDITORS OF THE SOCIETY'S REPRINTS.

1. The reprints are intended as exact type-facsimiles of the editions chosen for reproduction, and no latitude should be allowed except on points specifically mentioned below. Wherever possible the printer will be supplied with photographic copy.

2. The type of the reprint should resemble that of the original as closely as possible in character, and also in size so far as the retention of the foolscap-quarto page will allow.

3. The spacing is to be normalized. Such a measure should be chosen, allowing for the greater comparative breadth of modern type and the wideness of modern spacing, as will ensure the line-endings falling, in the case of verse, approximately in the same relative positions in the reprint as in the original. It is not necessary to be meticulous in this respect, but the distinction between full lines and those not full should be strictly observed, and it is as well to retain so far as possible the relative indentation of lines running to within say two ems of the end. Stage directions and the like, if clearly intended to come near one or other end of the line, should be adjusted in relation to the surrounding text, preferably to the line above. If, however, the intention of the original printer appears to have been to centre them, even roughly, they should be centred in the reprint. Headlines should in all cases be centred. Initial indentation should also be normalized: that is to say, if a line, which according to the general practice of the original should be indented, is only indented say one en instead of one em, it should be fully indented in the reprint; while a slight indentation of a line, which should not be indented, may be disregarded. If, however, one of the former is not indented at all, or one of the latter is fully indented, the error must be retained and treated as a misprint. All doubtful cases should be so treated.



4. While normalizing the spacing, care must be taken to preserve accurately the division between words, whether correct or not. This is not always an easy matter, as the irregular casting of old type, and the narrow spacing formerly used, often make it difficult to determine whether there is or is not a space between two given letters. In such cases the printer should be given the benefit of the doubt and the possibility of a misprint recorded. It is often useful to compare several copies of the original, since a little dirt on the face of the type will sometimes make a space appear doubtful, while if the type is not very tightly locked two letters may shift slightly apart without being really spaced. All points may be treated as spaced.

5. In most old italic founts there are two forms of many of the upper-case letters, a plain and an ornamental or 'swash' form. The latter is to be retained in the case of *ſ* and *U* (the 'swash' forms of *I* and *V*), in view of the fact that in some late printing these are used for the modern *J* and *U*; in the case of all other letters the plain form only is to be allowed (i.e. print *ABCDEFGHIJKLMNPQRSTYZ*, not *A<sup>~</sup>B<sup>~</sup>C<sup>~</sup>D<sup>~</sup>E<sup>~</sup>G<sup>~</sup>K<sup>~</sup>M<sup>~</sup>N<sup>~</sup>P<sup>~</sup>Q<sup>~</sup>R<sup>~</sup>T<sup>~</sup>Y<sup>~</sup>Z<sup>~</sup>*). Similarly print *W* for both *W* and *W*, but retain *VV*. In black-letter distinguish between *τ* and *ʒ*.

6. In the matter of digraphs the original must be scrupulously followed: for instance *Æ* must on no account be substituted for *AE*, nor *œ* for *æ*. On the other hand no attention need be paid to the presence or absence of ligatures, except where these affect the use of *f* and *s*. Thus *fk* should be rendered by *fk*, *fb* by *fb*, *ffi* by *ffi*, *ffl* by *ffl*, and so forth, these ligatures being rarely found in the founts in which early plays were printed; and further *is*, *as*, *us*, &c. are to be rendered by *is*, *as*, *us*, &c., the ligatures having in these cases dropt out of use. But *sk*, *sb*, *sfi*, *fsi*, and the like, must be retained. Similarly the ligatures *ct* and *ʒ* and their like are to be rendered by *ct*, *ʒt*, &c.

7. Turned letters are to be treated according to the following rules: (i) Where a letter when turned becomes practically indistinguishable from another letter, this other letter is to be printed in the text; cases are *b* and *q*, *n* and *u*, *d* and *p* (except black-letter), and in black-letter often *a* and *z*. Where the original clearly has a turned letter the fact may be recorded at the discretion of the editor, but it should not be treated as a misprint unless the reading as it appears in the reprint is clearly wrong. It should be noticed that in some black-letter printing it is quite impossible to distinguish clearly between *n* and *u* whether turned or not, and the same applies to *r* and *x*. In these cases the letters must be differentiated according to the apparent sense, and a warning of the fact

given in the introduction. In these cases it is also, of course, impossible to tell whether an *in* is turned or not. (ii) The letters o, s, x (except black-letter), z, and in italic *f* and *ff*, are practically identical either way up; if turned they should be put right, no further notice being taken. (iii) All remaining letters, digraphs, and ligatures are quite unambiguous, and it is also easy to see whether they are turned or not. If turned they should be set right and the fact noted. The same applies to all upper-case letters, the turning being easily detected by their position on the line.

8. Wrong-fount letters are to be corrected, and no further notice need as a rule be taken. Under wrong-fount letters are included cases of italic letters in a roman word or passage, and so forth; but any word of more than one letter printed in a different fount from the surrounding is to be retained. The common misprint of a 'nulla' (o) for the letter o, or vice versa, is to be treated as a wrong-fount.

9. Whenever possible, several copies of the original should be collated in the preparation of the reprint. It will generally be found that letters or points that are smudged, broken, faint, or otherwise doubtful in one copy are clear in another. These should be set right in the reprint, and it is unnecessary to specify upon which of the copies the reading depends. It often happens, however, that there are actual variations between the readings of different copies due to the type having been unlocked and alterations made during the process of printing off. When two copies differ in an isolated reading, the editor is justified in printing what he considers the more correct, duly recording the rejected variant. Where, however, the variants are numerous, he must follow a rigid system. The unit of variation in these cases is the forme, one side of a printed sheet. The editor must determine which state of the forme is the more correct on the whole, and follow the readings of that state throughout, even if it involves the reproduction of some inferior readings. He may, of course, set right doubtful letters as explained above. All true variants must be recorded.

10. The lines are to be numbered consecutively throughout, and every tenth marked in the margin. The numbering should begin immediately after the head-title, if there is one, and should include every line of print exclusive of headlines, signatures, and catchwords. Where the original is divided into acts and scenes, or where a recognized division of this nature has been introduced by subsequent editors, the consequent numbering should also be inserted in the margin. Where no such division exists, the editor should himself determine the division into scenes (but not as a rule into acts), and number these consecutively in the margin.

This does not apply to early interludes, in which the directions are often insufficient to allow of any division into scenes. In these cases a conjectural list of entries and exits may sometimes with advantage be given in the introduction.

11. A list of the irregular and doubtful readings of the original is to be included in the introduction for the purpose of substantiating the readings of the reprint. All misprints of the original, or readings which might readily be taken for such, are to be repeated in the list, and may be followed, at the pleasure of the editor, by an emendation in brackets, marked or not with a query as the case may be. Similarly, doubtful readings are to be mentioned; either the reading itself being repeated as doubtful, or else the possible alternative being queried. Turned letters, variant readings, and similar points are to be mentioned in the list according to the instructions given above. Instances of wrong punctuation need not, as a rule, be included, but the absence of any point at the end of a sentence should be noticed, unless punctuation is very sparse throughout. So also may the substitution of a comma for a period, or vice versa, since this is an error easily overlooked in proof. The editor must, however, use his judgement with a view to limiting the list, bearing in mind that its object is to substantiate the readings of the reprint. If, therefore, some irregularity is of frequent occurrence, for instance beginning lines or proper names with a lower-case letter, omitting punctuation, putting colons after abbreviations, and the like, no notice need be taken in the list, or merely a general indication inserted.

12. Where it is a question of printing from a manuscript original the conditions are very different, and the consequent practice must vary likewise. Moreover, the great dissimilarity between individual cases makes a uniform method undesirable. All that can be said here is that the text should be as far as possible literally reproduced, including all contractions, and that the general arrangement should as a rule be preserved. Beyond this it would be useless to lay down any general rules.



# ROBIN HOOD AND THE SHERIFF OF NOTTINGHAM

A DRAMATIC FRAGMENT, C. 1475.

THE following fragment of a Robin Hood play, preserved in a fifteenth-century manuscript, and in so far unique, has been printed on various occasions, but no facsimile has previously appeared. It is written on what was once the upper half of a large folio leaf standing at the end of a volume. This may be inferred from certain stains on the verso which suggest that the leaf was at one time pasted down. The centre of the verso was occupied by a rather elaborate painting of an heraldic dragon or wyvern in green, of which the upper portion only is now preserved. There is nothing to account for the odd shaped cuts which have mutilated the last four lines of the text. Above the painting are certain accounts which run as follows :

|   |   |   |   |      |
|---|---|---|---|------|
| Be it k[n]owne that I Iohn Sterndalle haffe Resseved of Rechard wytway penter                 |   |   |   |      |
| ffor p <sup>e</sup> Rent of p <sup>e</sup> wardorrop ffor iij q <sup>s</sup> of A 3ere xxvijs |   |   |   |      |
| Itrñ R of Rechard wytway penter ffor hes hosse Rent in ffulpayment ix s                       |   |   |   |      |
| Itrñ R of Rechard wytway penter ffor hes hosse Rent in ffulpayment ix s                       |   |   |   |      |
| the vij day of november Ao Ed iiij <sup>th</sup> xv   |   |   |   |      |
| Itrñ R of Rechard wytway penter ffor his hosse Rent in full                                   |   |   |   |      |
| payment ix s  |   |   |   |      |
| Itrñ R of Rechard wytway penter ffor his hosse Rent   | : | : | : | ix s |
| Itrñ R of Rechard wytway penter ffor his hosse Rente  | : | : | : | ix s |

The 'wardorrop' was evidently the name of the 'hosse', or house, which the 'penter', or painter, Richard Wytway, rented of John Sterndalle at 9s. a quarter. The 'vij day of november Ao Ed iiij<sup>th</sup> xv' was 7 November 1475, so that it will be seen that the entries extend from about May 1475 to August 1476.

The occurrence of the date makes it important to know whether the accounts or the poem are the earlier. Unfortunately no very definite answer seems possible. It has hitherto been usual to assume that, since the accounts are entered on the last page, the manuscript was presumably a literary one, and this view may have a slight balance of probability in its favour. On the other hand, the fact that the hand in which the poem is written grows gradually larger and more straggling, rather suggests that this was casually copied into the book than that it formed part of a regular literary collection. It may have been continued further, or it may have always been a fragment as we have it. No traces of the tall letters of the next line are visible. Whether, therefore, the business man used spare places in a literary manuscript in which to enter odd payments, or whether one with a love of popular verse made use of similar blanks in a disused account book to enter such fugitive scraps as fell in his way, is a question which must remain undetermined, and with it the further question as to whether the poem was written down before or after 1475. The hands on the two sides of the leaf do not appear to be the same; they are, however, obviously contemporary, and the entries can hardly be separated by more than a few years.

The poem was first printed by 'J. M. G.' of Worcester in *Notes and Queries* for 27 October 1855 (Series I, xii. 321), from a transcript made by the antiquary William Stukeley (1687-1765), then in the possession of Mr. Fleming St. John, Stukeley's great-grandson. The transcript bore a note stating the original to be in the possession of 'Mr. Le Neve (Norroy)'. Peter Le Neve (1661-1729) became Norroy king-at-arms in 1704. His widow married Thomas Martin (1697-1771) the antiquary and historian of Thetford, who was also Le Neve's executor, and into his possession Le Neve's collections, including the Paston letters and doubtless the present fragment, passed. On Martin's death his library was bought by Worth, a chemist of Diss, who sold part of it to Sir John Fenn (1739-1794), the editor of the Paston letters. Fenn married Eleanor Frere, and having no children adopted

his wife's nephew William Frere (1775-1836), who completed the edition of the letters and became Master of Downing College, Cambridge. He left a son, Philip Frere, whose widow gave the fragment to Mr. W. Aldis Wright. It was Mr. Wright who allowed the photographs to be taken for the Society: he has since presented the original to the Library of Trinity College, Cambridge. Since there is no record of Fenn's purchase from Worth having included more than the Paston papers, and since some of these are known to have been in the possession of Philip Frere as late as 1865, it seems not improbable that our fragment formed part of the collection, and was among the papers bought by Peter Le Neve of William Paston, second Earl of Yarmouth. Moreover, in one of the Paston letters, dated 16 Apr. 1473 (ed. Gairdner, iii. 89), we find mention of a man Woode, whom Sir John Paston had kept 'thys iij. yer to pleye Seynt Jorge and Robyn Hod and the Sheryff off Notyng-ham'. There can be little question, as F. J. Child and E. K. Chambers have pointed out (*Ballads*, iii. 90, note; *Mediaeval Stage*, i. 177), that this last piece is none other than the play to which our fragment belongs. The Pastons had for crest a griffin or: was our demi-dragon vert by any chance of his lineage?

The poem as preserved is fragmentary. Abrupt as is the opening nothing seems to be lost, but the action breaks off just at the most exciting point. The story is that of the ballad of 'Guy of Gisborne' preserved in the Percy Folio, as was pointed out by F. J. Child, who printed the fragment in his monumental collection of ballads (iii. 90). We can therefore conjecture what the end must have been. Of the story as told in the ballad a short summary may be given. Robin Hood dreams that he is beaten and bound by two yeomen, and on waking starts out with Little John in search of them. They find Sir Guy disguised as a yeoman, and quarrell as to who shall accost him, with the result that Little John goes off to join his fellows at Barnesdale, leaving Robin with Sir Guy. At Barnesdale John finds two of his fellows slain and meets Scarlet flying from the

Sheriff of Nottingham and his men. He draws his bow and shoots William of Trent, but his bow breaks and he is captured and bound to a tree. Meanwhile Robin Hood has been trying his skill at archery against Sir Guy whom he has worsted. When they discover one another's identity they draw their swords and fight. Sir Guy wounds Robin but is killed in return. Robin then disguises himself in the knight's yeoman-kit and goes to Barnesdale. Here he finds the Sheriff and claims, as his reward for slaying Robin Hood, the right to do what he will with Little John. The Sheriff assents, and he thereupon cuts his friend's bonds and puts a bow in his hand. Seeing themselves betrayed the former victors turn and fly, but Little John's arrow overtakes the Sheriff and kills him.

It will be noticed that the name of the knight does not appear in the dramatic fragment and may possibly be a later addition. The desire to indicate a connection with the ballad would suggest some such title as 'Robin Hood and Sir Guy' in place of the heading 'Robin Hood and the Knight' given to the play by Professor J. M. Manly in his *Specimens of the Pre-Shakespearean Drama* (i. 279), but it seems on the whole safer to adopt that preserved in the Paston letters. Manly's text is printed from a copy made for Child by Henry Bradshaw, and a collation by Aldis Wright. These are quoted in the notes as M, B, and W.

---

Syr sheryffe for thy sake / Robyn hode wull y take  
 I wyll the gyffe golde and fee This he heste þ<sup>a</sup> holde me  
 Robyn hode ffayre and fre / vndre this lynde shote we  
 with the shote y wyll / Alle thy lustes to full fyll  
 Have at the pryke And y cleue the styke  
 late vs caste the stone / I grūnte well be scynt Iohn  
 late vs caste the exaltre // have a foote be fore the

7

1. hode, the e, doubtful in the facsimile, appears in the original. 6. for  
 graunte, as M prints. Iohn, it looks like Iohā, but the appearance is deceptive.



syr knyght ye haue a falle // And I the Robyn qwyte shall  
 Owte on the I blowe myn horne / hit ware better be vn borne  
 lat vs fyght at ottraunce // he that fleth god gyfe hym myschaunce  
 Now I haue the maystry here / off I smyte this sory swyre  
 This knyghtys clothis wolles I were // And in my hode his hede woll bere  
 welle mete felowe myn / what herst þ<sup>a</sup> of gode Robyn  
 Robyn hode and his menyne / w<sup>t</sup> the sheryffe takyn be 14  
 sette on foote w<sup>t</sup> gode wyll / And the sheryffe wull we kyl  
 Be holde wele ffrere tuke // howe he dothe his bowe pluke  
 3eld yow syrs to the sheryffe / Or elles shall yo<sup>r</sup> bowes clyffe  
 Now we be bownden alle in same / ffrere [ ] uke þis is no game  
 Co[ ]e þ<sup>a</sup> forth þ<sup>a</sup> fals outlawe þ<sup>a</sup> shall [ ] hangyde and y drawe  
 Now [ ]allas what shall we doo / we [ ]oste to the prysone goo 20  
 Opy [ ]the yatis faste Anon // An [ ]te theis thevys ynne gon

The following reconstruction has been made with the help of that printed by Manly. In the absence of the continuation of the piece a good deal of the arrangement is necessarily conjectural. Comparison with the ballad of 'Guy of Gisborne' has, however, suggested certain alterations in the division of parts. Thus Manly makes the disguised Robin meet a man coming from the scene of the fray, invite him to join in killing the Sheriff, and then stand commenting on Friar Tuck's archery, while the scene changes to the field of battle, the outlaws being taken prisoner with Robin apparently looking on from a safe distance. This is just possible, since no previous mention has been made of Little John, as in the ballad; still the present arrangement, with a definite change of scene after Robin disguises himself—a break warranted by the ballad—and the appearance of a fresh set of characters, seems preferable.

18. [T] uke      19. Co[m]e . . . shall [be] hangyde      20. Now[e] . . .  
 [m]oste      21. Opy[n] . . . [te], this last reading is practically certain in the original;  
*B* read d]oo, but *W*'s conjecture la]te is to be preferred.      theis, so *B*; *W* thois,  
 but this is hardly possible, as Mr. Wright now agrees.

Sheriff of Nottingham and his men. He draws his bow and shoots William of Trent, but his bow breaks and he is captured and bound to a tree. Meanwhile Robin Hood has been trying his skill at archery against Sir Guy whom he has worsted. When they discover one another's identity they draw their swords and fight. Sir Guy wounds Robin but is killed in return. Robin then disguises himself in the knight's yeoman-kit and goes to Barnesdale. Here he finds the Sheriff and claims, as his reward for slaying Robin Hood, the right to do what he will with Little John. The Sheriff assents, and he thereupon cuts his friend's bonds and puts a bow in his hand. Seeing themselves betrayed the former victors turn and fly, but Little John's arrow overtakes the Sheriff and kills him.

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 Have at the pryke And y cleue the styke:  
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 Now I haue the maystry here / off I smyte this sory swyre  
 This knyghtys clothis wolles I were // And in my hode his hede woll bere  
 welle mete felowe myn / what herst þ<sup>a</sup> of gode Robyn  
 Robyn hode and his menyne / w<sup>t</sup> the sheryffe takyn be 14  
 sette on foote w<sup>t</sup> gode wyll / And the sheryffe woll we kyl  
 Be holde wele ffrere tuke // howe he dothe his bowe pluke  
 Jeld yow syrs to the sheryffe / Or elles shall yo<sup>r</sup> bowes clyffe  
 Now we be bownden alle in same / ffrere[ ]uke þis is no game  
 Co[ ]e þ<sup>a</sup> forth þ<sup>a</sup> fals outlawe / þ<sup>a</sup> shall[ ] hangyde and y drawe  
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*B* read d[oo], but *W*'s conjecture la[te] is to be preferred.      theis, so *B*; *W* thois,  
 but this is hardly possible, as Mr. Wright now agrees.

## SCENE I.

*Enter Sir Guy and the Sheriff of Nottingham.*

- Guy.* Syr Sheryffe, for thy sake  
Robyn Hode wull Y take.  
*Sheriff.* I wyll the gyffe golde and fee  
This be-heste thou holde me.

*The Sheriff goes out and Robin Hood enters meeting Sir Guy.*

- Guy.* Robyn Hode, ffayre and fre,  
Vndre this lynde shote we.  
*Robin.* With the shote Y wyll  
Alle thy lustes to full-fyll.  
*Guy.* Have at the pryke!  
*Robin.* And Y cleue the styke.  
*Guy.* Late vs caste the stone.  
*Robin.* I graunte well, be Seynt Iohn! *Robin wins.*  
*Guy.* Late vs caste the exaltre.  
*Robin.* Have a foote be-fore the! *Wins again. They wrestle.*  
Syr Knyght, ye haue a falle.  
*Guy.* And I the, Robyn, qwyte shall:  
Owte on the! I blowe myn horne.  
*Robin.* Hit ware better be vn-borne.  
Lat vs fyght at ottraunce.  
*Guy.* He that fleth, God gyfe hym myschaunce!

*They fight; Sir Guy is slain.*

- Robin.* Now I haue the maystry here:  
Off I smyte this sory swyre.  
This knyghtys clothis wolle I were,  
And in my hode his hede woll bere. *Disguises himself.*

## SCENE II.

*Meanwhile the Sheriff has attacked Robin's men. Little John, hurrying towards the scene of the conflict, meets Scarlet in flight.*

*Little John.* Welle mete, felowe myn,  
What herst thou of gode Robyn ?

*Scarlet.* Robyn Hode and his menye  
With the Sheryffe takyn be.

*Little John.* Sette on foote with gode wyll,  
And the Sheryffe wull we kyll.

*They watch the fight going on in the distance.*

*Scarlet.* Be-holde wele Frere Tuke  
Howe he dothe his bowe pluke !

*The Sheriff and his men enter with Friar Tuck and other outlaws as prisoners.*

*Sheriff.* 3eld yow, syrs, to the Sheryffe,  
Or elles shall your bowes clyffe. *Takes them prisoner.*

*Little John.* Now we be bownden alle in same :  
Frere [T]uke this is no game.

*Sheriff.* Co[m]e thou forth, thou fals outlawe ;  
Thou shall [be] hangyde and y-drawe.

*Friar Tuck.* Now[e], allas, what shall we doo ?  
We [m]oste to the prysone goo.

*Sheriff.* Opy[n] the yatis faste anon,  
An[d] la[te] theis thevys ynne gon.

*In the sequel Robin follows and rescues his men.*

---

Since the remains of the early Robin Hood drama are so scanty, it has seemed convenient to collect them all together in this place. The next section, therefore, contains such printed records as have come down from the sixteenth century. Specu-

lation alone is possible as to the relation of such pieces to the sword-dances or mummers' plays, of which many were taken down from recitation in the nineteenth century and in some of which Robin Hood and his merry men make an appearance. With the attempts of the literary drama to handle the story of Robin Hood we are not, of course, at present concerned. It is, therefore, doubtful whether a mention of the 'pastorall plesant Comedie of Robin Hood and little Iohn' entered in the Stationers' Register to Edward White on 14 May 1594 (Arber, ii. 649), is relevant or not. It may of course have been the play for May-games printed below, though this seems unlikely. It may also have been the 'merry ieasts' which, according to the *Downfall of Robert Earl of Huntington* (1601, sig. 12; Hazlitt's Dodsley, viii. 185), had been 'showne before' 1598:

As how the Frier fell into the Well,  
For loue of *Iinny* that faire bonny bell :  
How *Greeneleafe* robd the Shrieue of *Notingham*,  
And other mirthfull matter, full of game.

This certainly sounds popular. The latter story is told in the *Gest of Robin Hood*, fyfte iii, while the former is no doubt that of a ballad entitled 'The Fryer well fitted; or

A Pretty jest that once befel,  
How a maid put a Fryer to cool in the well,'

of which various broadside and chapbook versions are extant (Child, *Ballads*, no. 276).

# A PLAY OF ROBIN HOOD FOR MAY-GAMES

FROM THE EDITION BY WILLIAM COPLAND, C. 1560.

THE only fragments of the Robin Hood drama known to have found their way into print in early times were appended to an edition of *Gest of Robin Hood* printed by William Copland. The book is undated: Copland was in business from 1548 to 1569, and the address upon the Three Cranes Wharf seems to indicate the period after 1553. Several earlier editions of the *Gest* are known from copies or fragments, but none of these contain the dramatic appendix. The whole was subsequently reprinted 'for Edward White', again without date. There were two Edward Whites, who together covered the period 1577-1624: the date 1634 given by Child (*Ballads*, iii. 114, cf. 127) and Manly (*Specimens*, i. 279) is impossible. The reprint given below follows Copland's edition (C) as preserved in the British Museum (C. 21. c. 63). Unfortunately the first line of some pages has been wholly cut away in binding. The deficiencies have been made good from White's edition (E), of which all variants of any importance have also been recorded. Of this the Bodleian copy has been used; another is in the possession of Mr. A. H. Huth.

Though printed without break, the text really consists of two distinct pieces, both of which are related to extant ballads. The first, called by Manly 'Robin Hood and the Friar', is founded on a ballad, a mutilated text of which in the Percy Folio is headed 'Robin Hood and Friar Tuck', and a later printed version 'The Famous Battle between Robin Hood and the Curtal Friar' (Child, no. 123). The stories agree closely except

in one curious particular, in which the exigencies of representation necessitated a departure from tradition. Thus in the ballad when the friar whistles half a hundred good bandogs appear and attack the outlaws. These proved unmanageable in the play and had to be sacrificed. They left their trace, however, in the three dogs attending on the friar, in the hound which Robin pretends to summon with his horn—a touch not found in the ballad—and also in the fact that the men who enter at the friar's signal bear what seem to be dog names, Cut and Bause (= Bauson, dappled?). This first play is complete. The second, 'Robin Hood and the Potter,' though there is nothing in the printing to indicate that it is imperfect, breaks off in the middle of the action, a fact that suggests that Copland (or some predecessor) printed from a copy of an earlier edition which had lost a leaf or more at the end. The piece is connected with a ballad preserved in a manuscript of c. 1500 in the University Library, Cambridge (Ee. 4. 35, fol. 14<sup>b</sup>; Child, no. 121), but the relation is not intimate, and the sequel cannot be inferred with much confidence.

The title-page of Copland's edition of the *Gest* shows two woodcut figures, one, presumably representing Robin Hood, with bow and arrows, the other, inscribed 'Lytel Iohn', in full armour with scimitar and halbard: above is the legend 'A mery geste of Robyn Hooode and of hys lyfe, wyth a newe playe for to be played in Maye games very plefaunte and full of pastyme'. The play occupies sigs. H2<sup>v</sup>–I2<sup>v</sup>. At the end is the colophon 'Imprinted at London vpon the thre Crane wharfe by wyllyam Copland'. The title-page of White's edition bears the same two figures, but the blocks have been recut. This is curious in view of the inappropriateness of that here inscribed 'Litle Iohn', which was certainly not originally intended for that character. Indeed, Copland's block was itself recut after one used by de Worde in the undated *Hickscorner* to represent 'Persecu[rance]', while this was in its turn copied from one of the figures in Verard's *Terence*. The legend above, roman and italic replacing black-letter, runs: 'A merry Iest of *Robin Hood*, and of his life, VVith a newe play for to be plaied in May-games. Very



pleasant and full of pastime.' At the foot of the page, replacing an ornament in the earlier edition, is the imprint: 'LONDON. Printed for *Edward White*.' The play occupies sigs. G4<sup>v</sup>-H4<sup>r</sup>. There is no colophon. In the foot-notes to the present reprint C stands for Copland's edition and W for White's. The stage directions added by Manly are also quoted and marked M.

¶ Here beginneth the playe  
of Robyn Hooode, verye  
proper to be played  
in Maye games.

[H. ii. *verso*]

Robyn hode.

(all [ROBIN HOOD &  
THE FRIAR

**N**

Ow stand ye forth my mery men  
and harke what I shall say  
Of an aduenture I shal you tell  
the which befell this other day  
as I went by the hygh way with

a stoute frere I met

and a quarter staffe in his hande

Lyghtely to me he lept

and styll he bade me stande

There were strypes two or thre

But I can not tell who had the worfe

But well I wote the horeson lepte within me

and fro me he toke my purse

Is there any of my mery men all

That to that frere wyll go

and bryng him to me forth withall whether he

(wyll or no

10

head-title. *first line partly cut away but still legible.*

4. shal you C, shall you W. 6-7. with | a C, way | with W.

13. *two lines* (whorlon | Leapt) in W. 14. he C, omil W.

16. that C, the W. 17-8. *two lines* (withall | whether) in W.

¶ Lytell Iohn

yes mayfter I make god auowe  
To that frere wyll I go  
and bryng him to you whether he wyl or no

20

¶ Fryer tucke

Deus hic, deus hic, god be here  
Is not this a holy worde for a frere  
God faue all this compauy  
But am not I a iolly fryer  
For I can fhote both farre and nere  
and handle the fworde and buckler  
and this quarter ftaffe alfo

[H. iii. *recto*]

If I mete with a gentylman or yema  
I am not a frayde to loke hym vpon  
Nor boldly with him to carpe  
If he fpeake any wordes to me  
He fhall haue ftrypes two or thre  
That fhall make his body fmarte  
But maifter to fhew you the matter  
wherfore and why I am come hither  
In fayth I wyl not spare  
I am come to feke a good yeman  
In Bernisfdale mē fai is his habitaciō  
His name is Robyn hode  
and if that he be better man than I  
His feruaunt wyll I be and ferue him truly  
But if that I be better man than he  
By my truth my knaue fhall he be  
and leade thefe dogges all three

30

40

22. *two lines* (you | whither *sic*) in *W*. 'Exeunt omnes; enter Fryer Tucke, with three dogs.' *M*.

25. *partly cut away but still legible.* no; *C*, not *W*. for *C*, of *W*.

26. compauy *C*, company *W*. 32. a frayde *C*, afraid *W*.

37. maifter *C*, maisters *W*. 43. that *C*, omit *W*.

45. be better *C*, be a better *W*.

47. 'Robyn enters and seizes him by the throat.' *M*.

Robyn hode.

yelde the fryer in thy long cote

Fryer tucke

I beshrew thy hart knaue,  $\bar{y}$  hurtest my throt

50

Robyn hode

I trowe fryer thou beginnest to dote

who made the so malapert and so bolde

To come into this forest here

amonge my falowe dere

Fryer.

[H. iii. verso

Go louse the ragged knaue

If thou make mani wordes I wil geue  $\bar{y}$  on  $\bar{y}$

Though I be but a poore fryer (care

60

To feke Robyn hode I am com here

And to him my hart to breke

¶ Robyn hode.

Thou lousy frer what wouldest thou w hym

He neuer loued f ryer nor none of freiers kyn

¶ Fryer.

Auaunt ye ragged knaue

Or ye shall haue on the skynne

¶ Robyn hode.

Of all the men in the morning  $\bar{y}$  art the worst

To mete with the I haue no lust

70

For he that meteth a frere or a fox in  $\bar{y}$  mornīg

To spede ell that day he standeth in ieoperdy

Therefore I had leuer mete with  $\bar{y}$  deuil of hell

Fryer I tell the as I thinke

Then mete with a fryer or a fox in a mornyng

Or I drynke

¶ Fryer.

Auaūt thou ragged knaue this is but a mock

If you make māi words you shal haue aknock

80

65. f ryer *C*, Frier *W*. 67. ye *C*, omit *W*. 70. the morning *C*, a morning *W*.

73. ell *C*, ill *W*. 74. leuer *C*, rather *W*. of hell *C*, omit *W*.

76-7. mornyng | Or *C*, fox | in *W*.

80. you . . . you shal *C*,  $\bar{y}$  . . .  $\bar{y}$  shalt *W*. aknock *C*, a knock *W*.

Robyn hode  
 Harke frere wha tīsay here  
 Ouer this water thou shalt me bere  
 The brydge is borne away

Fryer,

To say naye I wyll not  
 To let the of thine oth it were great pitie & fin  
 But vpon a fryers backe and haue euen in

Robyn hode.

[H. iii. *recto*

Nay haue ouer

90

Fryer

Now am I frere win ād thou Robī without  
 To lay the here I haue no great doubt  
 Now art thou Robyn without, & I frere win  
 Lye ther knaue chose whether y wilte sinke or

Robyn hode. (fwym

why thou lowfy frere what hast thou donee

Fryer.

mary fet a knaue ouer the shone

Robyn hode

100

Therefore thou aby

Fryer

why wylt thou fyght a plucke

Robyn hode.

and god fend me good lucke

Fryer.

Than haue a stroke for fryer tucke

82. wha tīsay *C*, what I say *W*.

85. Fryer, *C*, Frier *W*.

86. say naye *C*, say thee nay *W*.

88. vpon *C*, vp on *W*.

90. 'Gets on the Fryer's back.' *M*.

92. 'Throws him into the stream.' *M*.

94. *read* Now am I frere without, & thou Robyn win.

95. chose whether y wilte sinke *C*, choose either sinke *W*.

97. donee *C*, doon *W*.

101. thou aby *C*, thou shalt aby *W*. 'Runs at the Fryer.' *M*.

107. 'They fight.' *M*.

Robyn hode.

Holde thy hande frere and here me speke

Fryer.

110

Saye on ragged knaue

me semeth ye begyn to swete

Robyn hode.

In this forest I haue a hounde

I wyl not giue him for a hundreth pound

Geue me leue my horne to blowe

That my hounde may knowe

Fryer.

Blowe on ragged knaue without any doubte

Vntyll bothe thyne eyes starte out

Here be a sorte of raggt d knaues come in

Clothed all in kendale grene

And to the they take their way nowe

Robyn hode

Peraduenture they do fo

¶ Fryer.

I gaue the leue to blowe at thy wyll

Now giue me leue to whistell my fyll

¶ Robin hode.

whystell frere euyl mote thou fare

Vn tyll bothe thyne eyes starte

¶ Fryer

130

Now cut and baufe

Breng forth the clubbes and staues

And downe with those ragged knaues

Robyn hode.

How sayest thou frere wyll thou be my mau

To do me the best feruyse thou can

120. 'Robyn blows; his men enter.' *M*.

121. be *C*, is *W*. raggt d *C*, ragged *W*.

130. mote *C*, might *W*.

131. Vn tyll *C*, vntill *W*. starte *C*, stare *W*. 'The Fryer whistles; his men enter.' *M*.

135. 'They fight.' *M*.

137. mau *C*, man *W*.

Thou shalt haue both golde and fee  
 and also here is a Lady free  
 I wyll geue her vnto the  
 And her chapplayn I the make  
 To serue her for my fake

140

¶ Fryer (kle

Here is an huckle duckle an inch aboue ȳ buc  
 she is a trul of trust, to serue a frier at his lust  
 a prycker a prauncer a terer of sheses  
 a wagger of ballockes when other men slepes  
 Go home ye knaues and lay crabbes in ȳ fyre  
 For my lady & I wil daunce in ȳ myre for veri

150

¶ Robyn hode (pure ioye [ROBIN HOOD &  
 THE POTTER

Lyften to my mery men all  
 and harke what I shall say  
 [Of an aduenture I shall you tell]

[I. i. *recto*

that befell this other daye  
 with a proude potter I met  
 And arofe garlande on his head  
 the floures of it shone maruaylous freshe  
 this feuen yere & more he hath vsed this waye  
 yet was he neuer so curteyse a potter

160

as one peny passage to paye  
 Is there any of my mery men all  
 That dare be so bolde  
 to make ȳ potter paie passage either siluer or  
 ¶ Lytell Iohn. (golde  
 Not I master for twenty pound redy tolde

140-1. *one line in W.*

145. is an *C*, is a *W*. ? duckleian *C* (*but more probably a space has worked up and made a mark*), duckle an *W*.

147. terer of sheses *C*, tearer of sheetes *W*.

148. ballockes *C*, buttockes *W*.

150-1. *read as two lines* (myre | for).

152. to *C*, omit *W*, read to me

153. harke *C*, harken *W*.

154. *almost entirely cut away, remaining traces illegible; supplied from W.*

157. arofe *C*, a rose *W*.

160. curteyse *C*, courteous *W*.

164-5. *two lines* (passage | either) *in W*.

For there is not among vs al one  
 that dare medle with that potter man for mā  
 I felt his handes not long agone  
 But I had leuer haue ben here by the  
 Therfore I knowe what he is  
 Mete him whē ye wil or mete him whā ye shal  
 He is as propre a man as euer you medle wal  
 Robyn hode.

170

I will lai with the litel Iohn .xx. pound so read  
 If I wyth that potter mete  
 I wil make him pay passage maugre his head  
 Lettell Iohn

I consente therto so eate I bread  
 If he pay passage maugre his head  
 Twēti poūd shal ye haue of me for your mede  
 The potters boye Iacke

180

Out alas that euer I sawe this daye  
 For I am clene out of my waye  
 From Notygham towne  
 If I hye me not the faster

[I. i. verso

Or I come there the maryet wel be done  
 Robyn hode

Let me se are the pottes hole and founde

167. among *C*, amongst *W*.

167-8. one | that *C*, that | dare *W*.

170. leuer haue ben *C*, leuer be *W*.

172. two lines (will | or) in *W*. ye shal *C*, you shall *W*.

173. medle *C*, medled *W*.

176. that *C*, the *W*.

179. eate I *C*, I eat *W*.

181. of me *C*, omit *W*. 'Exeunt all but Robyn. Enter the Potter's Boy, Jack.' *M*.

184. partly cut away but still legible.

185. Notygham *C*, Nottingham *W*.

186. hye me *C*, me hie *W*.

187. maryet *C*, market *W*.

188, 192, 218, 225, 232. hode *C*, omit *W*.

189. the *C*, thy *W*.

Iacke

190

yea meister but they will not breake the groūd

Robyn hode

I wil thē breke for y̅ cuckold thi maisters fake

And if they will not breake the grounde

thou shalt haue thre pence for a pound

Iacke

Out alas what haue ye done

If my maister come he will breke your crown

the potter

why thou horefon art thou here yet

200

thou shouldest haue bene at market

Iacke.

I met with robin hode a good yeman

He hath broken my pottes

And called you kuckolde by your name

The potter

Thou mayst be a gentylman so god me faue

But thou semest a naughty knaue

Thou callest me cuckolde by my name

and I fwere by God and feynt Iohn

210

wyfe had I neuer none

This cannot I denye

But if thou be a good felowe (to

I wil fel mi horfe mi harneis pottes &amp; paniers

Thou shalt haue the one halfe &amp; I wil haue y̅

[I. ii. *recto*]

If thou be not so content (other

Thou shalt haue stripes if y̅ were my brother

194. not *C*, omit *W*.195. 'Dashes the pots to the ground.' *M*.198. 'Enter the Potter.' *M*.206, 223, 228, 235. The (or the) *C*, omit *W*.209. me cuckolde *C*, me a cuckold *W*.214. horfe mi harneis *C*, horfe harness *W*.215. *partly cut away but still legible*. wil haue *C*, omit *W*.216-7. content | Thou *C*, haue | stripes *W*.



## Robyn hode

Harke potter what I shall fay  
this feuen yere and more y<sup>u</sup> haft vsed this way  
yet were thou neuer so curteous to me

220

As one penny passage to paye  
the potter

why should I paye passage to thee

## Robyn hode

For I am Robyn hode chiefe gouvernoure

Under the grene woode tree

the potter.

this feuen yere haue I vsed this way vp and  
yet payed I passage to no man (downe

230

Nor now I wyl not beginne to do y worst y cã

Robyn hode.

passage shalt thou paí here vnder y grēe wode  
Or els thou shalt leue a wedded with me (tre

the potter

If thou be a good felowe as men do the call

Laye awaye thy bowe

And take thy fword and buckeler in thy hande

And fe what ſhall befall

robin hode

240

Lyttle Iohn where art thou

**Lyttell**

Here mayster I make god auowe

I tolde your mayster fo god me faue

that you shoulde fynde the potter a knaue

Holdē your buckelē [fast in your hand]

[I. ii. verso

And I wyll styfly by you stande

227. grene woode *C*, greene-wood *W*.

229. haue C, omit W.

231. to C, omit W.

233-4. grēe wode tre *C*, green-woodtree *W*.

234. wedded C, wed W.

242. Lyttell C, Little John W.

243. god C, *omit* W.

244. your *C*, you *W*.

246. partly cut away; end illegible, supplied from W.

Ready for to fyghte  
Be the knaue neuer so ftoute  
I fhall rappe him on the fnoute  
And put hym ro flyghte

250

Thus endeth the play of  
Robyn Hode

251. ro *C*, to *W*.

# THE PLAY OF LUCRECE

A FRAGMENT OF AN INTERLUDE PRINTED C. 1530.

TAKEN in connection with *Calisto and Melebea* the importance of the following fragment of what may be called an interlude of romantic intrigue is evident. The two pieces belong to the same type, a type otherwise unrepresented among extant texts. The present fragment is preserved in the Bagford collection at the British Museum (Harl. 5919, fol. 20, no. 98), and consists of two leaves (four pages) in quarto. From the signature on the first page (partly cut away) it appears that the extant leaves are the third and fourth of a quire. They belong together, having indeed a water-mark in the fold, whence it follows that the gathering, though in quarto, contained six leaves. This clumsy arrangement is not uncommon among the earliest dramatic publications. The letter of the signature cannot now be determined, but it is not a tall letter, and since the portion of the text preserved obviously belongs to the beginning of the play, the signature may safely be read as 'a iii'. The ends of a few lines have been cut away on pages 1 and 3, the speakers' names on page 2, and both the speakers' names and the beginnings of the lines on page 4. Happily all the readings can be conjecturally restored with reasonable confidence.

The fragment is printed in black letter, and there is no worse authority than Robert Proctor's for ascribing it to the press of John Rastell, the printer of *Calisto and Melebea* (Hand Lists of English Printers, ii, Bibl. Soc. 1896). It should, however, be observed that while the ascription is inherently probable our knowledge of the English presses of the first half of the sixteenth century is not at present sufficiently minute to justify complete confidence in such attributions. Rastell was at work from 1516

till 1533; none of his dramatic books are dated, but it seems likely that they all belong to the close of his career.

It is possible that either a complete copy or else another fragment of this interlude survives somewhere. In the notes to his *Outlines of the Life of Shakespeare* (10 ed., 1898, ii. 340) Halliwell-Phillipps writes: 'The most ancient English secular drama which is known to exist was written about the year 1490 by the Rev. Henry Medwall, chaplain to Morton, Archbishop of Canterbury, and afterwards printed by Rastell under the title of,—“a godely interlude of Fulgeus, Cenatoure of Rome, Lucre his doughter, Gayus Flaminius and Publius Cornelius, of the Disputacyon of Noblenes”.' In the absence of any indication of his authority it is obviously impossible to criticize this remarkable statement, but it finds some corroboration in the entry 'Fulgius and Lucrell' found in the early play lists by Rogers and Ley (1656), Archer (1656), who adds the designation '[Comedy]', and Kirkman (1661 and 1671), and thence copied by bibliographers (cf. Chambers, *Mediæval Stage*, ii. 458). It should perhaps be added that Chetwood's embroidery of this entry into '*Fulgius and Lucrette*, a Pastoral, from the *Italian*, 1676' (*British Theatre*, 1750) is manifestly a work of the imagination. It is, however, somewhat perplexing to find that in his index the title is actually misprinted as '*Fulgius and Lucretia*'.

The source of the story of this Lucrece is unknown. She appears to have no connection either with her of the Tarquin legend or with the heroine in Aeneas Silvius' romance of *Eurialus and Lucretia*. It should perhaps be mentioned that the 'goodly history of the beautyfull Lady Lucre of Scene', reported by Herbert (*Typographical Antiquities*, p. 1793) as printed by John King in 1560, is to be identified with the latter.

The fragment has not previously been reprinted, but facsimiles of the whole are given in an appendix to the edition of *Youth* by W. Bang and R. B. McKerrow (*Materialien zur Kunde des älteren Englischen Dramas*, xii, 1905).

Nor flacke at this bargyn  
 Mary here he cōmyth I haue hym aspyde  
 No more wordis ftonde thou a fyde  
 For it is he playne

cor. ¶ My frynde where abowt goist thou all day

B ¶ Mary fyr I came heder to a fay  
 whedyr these folke had ben here  
 And yet thay be not come

So helpe me god and holydome  
 Of that I haue moche maruaile / that thay tarly

cor. ¶ Mary go thi way / & wit where they wyll or [no

B ¶ ye god avow shall I so

cor. ¶ ye mary so I fay

B ¶ yet in that poynt as femyth me  
 ye do not accordynge to your degre

cor. ¶ I pray the tell me why

B ¶ Mary it wolde be com them well I now  
 To be here a fore and to wayte vpon you

And not you to tary

For theyr layfyr and abyde them here

As it were one that were ledde by the eare

For that I defy

By this mene you sholde be theyr druge

I tell you tought I

And yet the worst that greueth me

Is that your aduersfary sholde in you fe

So notable A foly

Therfore witdraw you for a feafone

cor. ¶ By seynt Iohan thou sayst but reafone

B ¶ ye do so hardely

And whan the tyme drawith vpon

That thay be com euerychone

And all thinge redy

10

20

30

[a iii verso]

¶ Than shall I come streyght a way  
For to feche you withoute delay

cor.] ¶ Be it so hardely  
But one thinge whyle I thiuke ther one  
Remēber this when I am gone  
yef hit happon so

That luces come in fyrst alone

40

Go in hand with her anone

How so euer thou do

For to fele her mynde toward me

And by all meanis poffyble to be

In duce her ther vnto

B ] ¶ Than some token you must gyue me  
For ellis she wyll not beleue me  
That I cam from you

cor.] ¶ Mary that is eunyn wyfely spoken  
Cōmaunde me to her by the same taken  
She knowyth it well I now

50

That as she and I walkyde onis to gedyr

In her garden hedyr and thedyr

There happonde a straunge case

For at the last we dyd se

Abyrd fittyng on a holow tre

An ashe I trow it was

Anone she prayde me for to assay

yf I coude start the byrde a way

B ] ¶ And dyde ye so / alas alas

60

cor.] ¶ why the deuyll sayst thou so

B ] ¶ By collis bonis for it was a kocko

And men say amonge

He that throwyth stone ar ftycke

34. ¶ sic. a way sic.

35. feche sic.

37. thiuke sic.

39. yef, i. e. if

45. In duce sic.

50. Cōmaunde, i. e. commend.

51. I now sic.

52. to gedyr sic.

54. happonde sic.

55. the, possibly th e.

56. Abyrd sic.

59. a way sic.

64. ar sic.

At fuche abyrd he is lycke

To fynge that byrdes fonge

cor. ¶ what the deuyll recke I therfore

[a iv *recto*

Here what I say to the euer more

And marke thine erand well

Syr I had no stone to throw with all

70

And therfore she toke me her must ball

And thus it befell

I kyft it as strayght as ony pole

So that it lyghtyde euyn in the hole

Of the holow ashe

Now canst thou remēber all this

B ¶ By god I wolde be loth to do amys

For some tyme I am full rashe

ye say that ye kyft it euyn in the hole

Of the holow ashe as strayte as apole

80

Sayde ye not so

cor. ¶ yes.

B ¶ well then let me a lone

As for this erande it shall be done

As sone as ye be go

cor. ¶ Fare well then I leue the here

And remēbyr well all this gere

How so euer thou do ¶ Et exeat cornelius

B ¶ yes hardely this erande shall be spoken

But how say you fyrs by this tokene

90

Is it not a quaynt thinge

I went he hade bene a fayd man

But I fe well he is amade man

In this meffage doynge

But what. chofe he for me

I am but as a meffanger perde

The blame shall not be myne but his

For I wyll his token reporte

65. abyrd *sic*.

80. apole *sic*.

83. a lone *sic*.

92. fayd *sic*, for sad.

93. amade *sic*, for a mad. <sup>1</sup>

whether she take it in herneft or sporte

I] wyll not therof mys

B]e she wroth or well a payde

I] wyll tell her euyne as he sayde ¶ Intrat lucres.

¶ God a vow here she is

I]t is tyme for me to be wyfe

N]ow welcome lady. floure of prife

I] haue fought you twyfe or thryfe

wlythin this houre I wys

luc. ¶ Me fyr haue ye fought me

B ¶ ye that I haue by god that bowght me

luc. ¶ To what intent

B ¶ Mary for I haue thingis a few

T]he which I must to you shew

B]y my maysters cōmaūdement

P]ublius Cornelius is his name

yo]ur veray loue in payne of shame

An]d yf ye loue hym not ye be to blame

Fo]r this dare I say

An]d on a boke make it gode

H]e louyd you better than his one hart blode

luc. ¶ Hys harte bloode nay nay

H]alf that loue wolde serue for me

B ¶ yet fithe he dyde you fyrst fe

In] the place where he dwellis

He] had louyd you so in his hart

T]hat he settyth not by hym self a fart

N]or by noo man ellis

An]d by cause ye shulde gyue credence

V]nto my sayng in hys absence

An]d trust to that I say

He] tolde me tokyns .ii. or .iii.

wh]iche I know well as he tolde me

luc. ¶ Tokyns what be thay

99

[aiv verso

110

120

130



## DRAMATIC RECORDS FROM THE LANSDOWNE MANUSCRIPTS

THE following documents are all drawn from the first division of the *Lansdowne Manuscripts*, which consists of the Burghley Papers. These are mainly official and semi-official papers accumulated by Sir William Cecil, created Baron of Burghley on February 25, 1571. From the accession of Elizabeth on November 17, 1558, to his death on August 4, 1598, Cecil's activities ranged over the whole sphere of government. He was appointed Secretary of State on the first day of the reign, Master of the Court of Wards on January 10, 1561, and Lord High Treasurer on the death of the Marquis of Winchester in July, 1572. Thenceforward he was practically first minister of the Crown. He was also from February, 1559, Chancellor of the University of Cambridge, and several of the documents here printed evidently came to him in this capacity. Many of Burghley's collections remain as State Papers; others are at Hatfield and have been calendared as *Cecil Manuscripts* by the Historical Manuscripts Commission; others again remained at his death in the hands of his Secretary, Sir Michael Hickes, and it is these that now form part of the *Lansdowne Manuscripts*. They were sold, about 1682, by Sir Michael's great-grandson, Sir William Hickes, to Richard Chiswell, a London stationer, and from him passed, through the historian John Strype and the antiquary James West, to the first Marquis of Lansdowne. From his representatives they were bought for the British Museum in 1807. Most of the documents included in the present series have already been printed by J. P. Collier and others, but they are widely scattered, and it has seemed to the Council of the Malone Society worth while to bring them

together in authentic texts. Those printed by Professor Albert Feuillerat of Rennes, in *Documents relating to the Office of the Revels in the time of Queen Elizabeth* (1908, *Materialien zur Kunde des älteren englischen Dramas*, xxi), have, however, with one exception, been excluded. The texts have been prepared by the General Editor and the head-notes added by the President.

December, 1908.

# I

[1562, May-July. Plot for masks at Nottingham (*Lansdowne MS.* 5. f. 126, art. 38). Printed in Collier, *H. E. D. P.* (1879), i. 178. A warrant of May 10, 1562, to John Fortescue, Master of the Great Wardrobe, for the delivery of silks, doubtless for these masks, to Sir Thomas Benger, Master of the Revels, is printed from *Lansdowne MS.* 5. art. 40 in A. Feuillerat, *Documents relating to the Office of the Revels in the time of Queen Elizabeth*, 114. Negotiations for an interview between Elizabeth and Mary Queen of Scots were on foot throughout the summer of 1562, and were finally suspended at the end of July (D. H. Fleming, *Mary Queen of Scots*, 70, 292). Fleay, *Chronicle History of the London Stage*, 19, suggests that the devices were used in 'a modified form' for a mask before Elizabeth and the Duc de Montmorency in June, 1572, payments for which are included in the Revels Account for 1572-3 (Feuillerat, 153), and this is accepted by R. Brotanek, *Die englischen Maskenspiele*, 25. But the interval is ten years and the resemblances are only partial. Argus, Lady Peace and Discord with his prison are common to both masks; but in 1572 Peace entered, not in a chariot, but in a castle, and the principal personages of 1562, Prudence and Temperance, are not mentioned at all. On the other hand, we find Apollo and the nine Muses, of whom there is nothing in 1562.]

Devices to be shewed before the queenes Ma<sup>tie</sup> by waye of maskinge, at Nottingham castell, after the meteinge of the queene of Scott /

## The firste night

ffirste a pryson to be made in the haule, the name whercof, is Extreme Oblyvion, and the kepers name thereof, Argus otherwise called Circumspection, then a maske of Ladyes to come in after this sorte /

ffirste Pallas rydinge vppon an vnycorne, havinge in her hande a Standarde, in w<sup>ch</sup> is to be paynted ij Ladyes handp, knitt one faste w<sup>th</sup>in thother, and over thandp written in letters of golde / ffides /

Then ij Ladyes rydinge togethers thone vppon a golden Lyon, w<sup>th</sup> a crowne of gold on his heade, thother vppon a redd Lyon w<sup>th</sup> the like crowne of gold, signifyinge ij vertues / that is to saye, the Lady on the golden Lyon, is to be called Prudentia / and the Ladye on the redd Lyon / Temperantia /

After this to followe vj, or viij, Ladyes maskers, bringinge in captive Discorde, and false Reporte, with ropes of gold about there neckp / When theis haue marched about the haule, Then Pallas to declare before the quenes Ma<sup>tie</sup> in verse, that the goddes vnderstandinge the noble meteinge of those ij quenes, hathe willed her to declare vnto them, that those ij vertues Prudentia and Temperantia haue made greate and longe sute vnto Iupiter that it wold please hym to gyve vnto them false Reporte and discorde to be punisshed as they thinke goode / and that those Ladyes haue nowe in there presence determyned to comitt them faste bounde vnto thafforesayde pryson of Extreme Oblyvion, there to be kept by thafforesayde gaylor Argus, otherwise Circumspection for ever, vnto whome Prudentia shall delyver a locke wherevppon shalbewrytten ineternum / Then Temperantia shall likewise delyver vnto Argus a key whose name shalbe nunquã / Signifyinge that when false Reporte and Discorde are committed to the pryson of Extreme Oblyvion, and locked there everlastinglie, he should put in the key to lett them out nunquã, and when he hathe so done then the Trompettp to blowe, and thinglishe Ladies to take the nobilite of the straunger and daunce /

### The seconde night

ffirst a Castell to be made in the haule called the Courte of plentye / then the maske after this sorte

ffirste Peace rydinge vppon a Chariott drawen w<sup>th</sup> an Oliphant vppon whome shall ryde ffryndshippe, and after them vj, or viij, Ladyes maskers, and when they haue marched rounde aboute the haule ffryndshippe shall declare before the quenes highnes in verse, that the goddes Pallas hath latelie made a declaraçon before all the goddþ, howe wo<sup>th</sup>ilie the night precedent theis ij vertues, Prudentia, and Temperantia, behaved them selves in Iudginge, and condempninge, false Reporte, and Discorde, to the prison of Extreme Oblyvion / And vnderstandinge that those ij vertues do remaine in that cowrte of plentye, they haue by there mightie power, sent this vertu peace there to dwell with those ij Ladyes, for ever / To this Castell pteyneth ij porters, thone to prudentia called Ardent desyer and thother porter to Temperantia, named ppetuitie / Signifyinge that by ardent desyer, and ppetuitie, perpetuall peace and tranquillitie maye be hadd & kept throughe the hole worlde. Then shall springe out of the cowrte of plentie Condittp of all sortp, of wynes, duringe w<sup>ch</sup> tyme, thinglishe Lordp shall maske w<sup>th</sup> the Scottishe Ladyes /

### The thyarde night

ffirste shall come in Disdaine rydinge vppon a wilde bore, w<sup>th</sup> hym prepencyd Malyce, in the similitude of a greate serpent / These ij shall drawe an Orcharde havinge golden Apples in w<sup>ch</sup> Orchard shall sitt vj, or viij, Ladyes maskers / then Dysdaine shall declare before the quenes Ma<sup>tie</sup> in verse, that his Mr Pluto the greate god of hell takith no little displeasure w<sup>th</sup> Iupiter the god of heaven, for that he in the ij other nightp precedent hath ffirste by Pallas sent Discorde and false Reporte beinge ij of his chefe servantp, vnto Prudentia, and Tempantia, to be punisshed at there pleasure, and not content w<sup>th</sup> this, but hathe the laste night, sent vnto those ij Ladyes, his moste mortall enymye Peace, to be onlie betwene them ij imbraced / Wherefore Iupiter shall well vnderstande that in dispite of his doingp, he hath sent his cheffeste Capitayne prepencyd Mallyce and wyllithe ether Argus, otherwise Circumspection, to delyver vnto hym Discorde

and false Reporte, his saide masters servaunt, or ells thafforsaid  
ij porters Ardent Desyer, and perpetuitie, to delyver hym there  
masters enymie, peace ; chuse them whether /

Then shall come in Discretion, after hym Valyant courage, other-  
wise Hercules, rydinge vppon a horse whose name is boldnes,  
Discretiyn leadynge hym by the raynes of the brydell / after hym  
vj or viij Lord<sup>r</sup> maskers / Then Discretion shall declare before  
the quenes highnes in verse, that Iupiter dothe well foresee the  
mischevous intent of pluto, and therefore to confounde his  
pollycp, hathe sente from heaven this vertu Valyant courage, w<sup>ch</sup>  
shalbe suffycient to confounde all plutos devicp / neverthesse  
thos ij dyvells dysdaine, and prepencyd Malyce, are mervailous  
warryours, Yea su<sup>ch</sup> as vnlesse theis vertues Prudentia, and  
Tempania, will of them selves by some signe or token conclude  
to imbrace peace, in su<sup>ch</sup> sorte as Iupiter hathe sent hym vnto  
them / itt wilbe to harde for Valyant courage, to overcome those  
vyces, but if they once speake but one worde the battaill is over-  
come as a trifle / And therefore Iupiter hathe willed Discretion,  
in the presence of those ij quene[ ] to repaier vnto the cowrte, of  
plentie, and there firste to demaunde of Prudentia, how longe her  
plesure is of her hono<sup>r</sup>, that peace shall dwell betwene her, and  
Temperantia / then Prudentia shall let downe vnto Discretion, w<sup>th</sup>  
a bande of gold, A grandgarde of Assure, wherevppon shalbe  
wrytten, in letters of gold / Ever / Then discretion shall humblie  
demaunde of Temperantia vppon her honor, when peace shall  
depte from Prudentia, and her grace / Then Temperantia shall  
lett downe vnto Discretiyn a girdell of Assure, studded w<sup>th</sup> gold,  
and a Sworde of stele, wherevppon shalbe written / Never / w<sup>ch</sup>  
grandgarde, and sworde, Discretion shall bringe, and laye at  
the fete of the ij quenes / Then Discretion (after a fewe wordp  
spoken) shall before the quenes highnes, arme Valyant courage,  
otherwise Hercules, w<sup>th</sup> the grandgard of Ever, and gyrte hym  
w<sup>th</sup> the sworde, of Never / Signifyinge that those ij Ladies haue  
pfessed that peace shall ever dwell w<sup>th</sup> them, and Never depte  
from them / and Signifyinge also that there Valyant courage

shalbe ever at defyance, w<sup>th</sup> disdaine, and prepencyd mallice and never leave vntill he haue overcome them / and then shall valyant courage alone go and fight w<sup>th</sup> those ij, in the myddeste of w<sup>ch</sup> fight, disdaine shall ruine his wayes and escape w<sup>th</sup> life, but the monster p<sup>r</sup>epenced mallyce shalbe slaine for ever / Signifyinge that some vngodlie men maye still disdaine the ppetuall peace made betwene those ij vertues, but as for there prepenced Mallice, it is easye troden vnder theis Ladyes fete / After this shall come out of the garden, the vj, or viij, Ladies maskers, w<sup>th</sup> a songe ; that shalbe made herevpon, as full of Armony, as maye be devised /

[Endorsed] Maij 1562. Devises to be shewed before y<sup>e</sup> Queene at Nottingham before y<sup>e</sup> meting of y<sup>e</sup> Q of Scotts. [A later hand has altered 'before' to 'after' and added some lines of cypher beginning 'The Interview' and containing the references 'Eliz.' 'S<sup>r</sup> H. Sydn.' 'Cam. Eliz. p. 59 & 60'.]

[31. ineternum sic.      93. quenes, *the final s has been cut off at the end of a line.*]

## II

[1564, February 23. Edmund Grindal, Bishop of London, to Sir William Cecil (*Lansdowne MS.* 7. f. 141, art. 62). Cited by Strype, *Life of Grindal*, i. 121, and printed in Grindal's *Remains* (1843) 269, and T. Wright, *Queen Elizabeth and her Times*, i. 166. This is the first occasion upon record upon which the plague was made the ground for an attack upon the London stage. James Calphill, Prebendary and Penitentiary of St. Paul's, had been appointed Lady Margaret Professor of Divinity at Oxford on February 18, a few days before the date of the letter.]

M<sup>r</sup>. Calphill this mornynge shewed me y<sup>or</sup>. letter to him, wherin ye wishe some politike orders to be devised agaynste Infection. I thinke it verie necessarie, and wille doo myne endevo<sup>r</sup> bothe by exhortation, and otherwise. I was readye to crave yo<sup>r</sup>. helpe for y<sup>t</sup> p<sup>r</sup>pose afore, as one nott vnmyndefulle of y<sup>e</sup> parishe.

By searche I doo perceive, thatt ther is no one thinge off late is more lyke to have renewed this contagion, then the practyse off an idle sorte off people, w<sup>ch</sup>. have ben infamouse in all goode co<sup>m</sup>on weales: I meane these Histriones, co<sup>m</sup>on playo<sup>rs</sup>. / Who now daylye, butt specialye on holydayes, sett vp bylles, whervnto y<sup>e</sup> youthe resorteth excessively, & ther taketh infection: besydes y<sup>t</sup> goddes worde by theyr impure mowthes is prophaned, and turned into scoffes / for remedie wheroff In my iugement ye shulde do verie well to be a meane, y<sup>t</sup> a proclamation wer sette furthe to inhibitte all playes for one whole yeare (and iff itt wer for ever, it wer nott amisse) w<sup>th</sup>in y<sup>e</sup> Cittie, or 3. myles compasse, vpon paynes aswell to y<sup>e</sup> playo<sup>rs</sup>., as to y<sup>e</sup> owners off y<sup>e</sup> howses, wher they playe theyr lewde enterludes.

I wrote to M<sup>r</sup>. D. Humfrey off Oxforde to kepe the daye apoynted him by my L. of Rochester, w<sup>ch</sup>. he wille observe I dowbte nott.

As I counselled M<sup>r</sup> Calhille to knowe yo<sup>r</sup>. pleasure for his repayre to Courte, so I shalle praye you to lett me vnderstande yo<sup>r</sup>. advise for myne owne case concernynge my sermon, whether I remayninge her maye be admitted / and y<sup>e</sup> lyke for my Chapleyn M<sup>r</sup>. Wattes.

I was compelled to remoove hether bothe for y<sup>e</sup> better discharge off myne office, and also for y<sup>t</sup> I was destitute off necessarie provision att fulham. Yett I thowghte then, y<sup>e</sup> Cittie wolde have ben cleare yer nowe.  
godde kepe you.

frome my howse at Powles 22. febr. 1563.

yo<sup>r</sup>. in Christe,  
Edm. London.

[Addressed] To the honorable, S<sup>r</sup>. William Cecill knighte, Secretarie to the Quenes Ma<sup>tie</sup>.

[Endorsed] 22 Febr 1563. B. of London. Orders to bee observed against y<sup>e</sup> Infection. Against Interludes.

[10. bylles, *Wright prints* booths. 30. yer *sic* for ere. Endmt.  
Against Interludes, *altered from* Against Veifs (?) Interlude players.]

## III

[1570, July 29. Exchequer Warrant for Issue (*Lansdowne MS.* 12, f. 119, art. 55). This is a copy of the original warrant, which is preserved in the Record Office (Parcel 117). Another copy from Harleian MS. 146, f. 74, is printed in A. Feuillerat, *Documents relating to the Office of the Revels in the time of Queen Elizabeth*, 125. The present copy was evidently obtained soon after Burghley's appointment as Lord High Treasurer in July, 1572, for his information as to the procedure adopted by his predecessor, the Marquis of Winchester.]

Elizabeth by the grace of God Queene of England, ffraunce and Ireland Defendo<sup>r</sup> of the faith &c' To the Thřer and Chamblain of o<sup>r</sup> Exchequire greetinge Whereas it appereth by a leidger booke subscribed vnder thandes of the M<sup>r</sup> of o<sup>r</sup> Revellp and other o<sup>r</sup> Officers appteininge vnto o<sup>r</sup> said office, that ther is growne due vnto certeine creadito<sup>rs</sup> for stuffe by them deliuered into the said office, ffor the ffurnisshing of such playes Tragedies and Maskes as hath ben shewid before vs at Christmas and Shroftyde last past in the xij<sup>th</sup> yere of o<sup>r</sup> Raigne As also for wages and other necessities occupied in the said Office about the same, as for keping of the stuffe and such other thingp as are incident to the office being due and owinge for vnto diu's and sundry artificers and others for worckmanshipp and attending thereof the sum of foure hundred foure score xix<sup>ll</sup> xvij<sup>s</sup> vj<sup>d</sup> o<sup>b</sup> As by the same booke co<sup>m</sup>itted by o<sup>r</sup> Thřer vnto thandes of one of o<sup>r</sup> Auditors of our prestp it more plainly appeerith Theis therfore are to signifie vnto yow, that o<sup>r</sup> will and pleasure is, that of such o<sup>r</sup> Thresure as p'sently remayneth in the Receipt of o<sup>r</sup> Exchequire, or that hereafter shall co<sup>m</sup> into the same, Ye content and pay or cause to be contented & payd Vnto o<sup>r</sup> Right trusty and welbelouid servant S<sup>r</sup> Thomas Benger knight, M<sup>r</sup> of o<sup>r</sup> Revillp or his assigne the said some of foure hundred fourescore nynetene powndes seventene shillingp six pence half peny, to be by him, or his assigne payd ou' vnto such Creaditors and other psons, as the same is owinge vnto, in full satisfaction and payment of the said leiger booke. And



thes o<sup>r</sup> l<sup>r</sup>es &c' Dated at Cheynis the xxix<sup>th</sup> of Iuly in the xij<sup>th</sup> yere of the Q. ma<sup>t</sup><sup>e</sup> Reign.

This warrant was subscribid by the late L. Thresorer of England before it cam to her ma<sup>tes</sup> Signature / as appeerith by the same, passid at the Signet By me I. so<sup>m</sup>er

[Endorsed] A presedent proving that the olde lorde Treasaw<sup>r</sup> did first subscribe the the wrrant for the payment of mony due in the Revells.

[27. Cheynis *might equally be* Theynis. Endmt. the the wrrant *sic*.]

#### IV

[1577, April 8. Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester to Lord Burghley (*Lansdowne MS.* 25, f. 38, art. 18). The Lord Chamberlain was the Earl of Sussex. Nothing more is known of the nature or issue of Sir Jerome Bowes' suit. He was a follower of Leicester in 1571 (Stowe, *Annals*, 669), but was banished from court for slandering him between the date of this letter and August 8, 1577 (*S. P. Dom. Add. Eliz.* xxv. 30). In 1583 he was sent as ambassador to Russia.]

My good L. I am requyred to put you in remembrance, for y<sup>t</sup> S<sup>r</sup> Ierome boues semes y<sup>t</sup> yo<sup>r</sup> L. hath p<sup>t</sup>ely forgotten that hit was her ma<sup>ts</sup> pleashr, that yo<sup>r</sup> L. my Chamberleyn & I shuld conferr & consider of the sute touching plays to be granted to him & certayn others, &c'. w<sup>c</sup> hir ma<sup>t</sup><sup>e</sup> pleashr I brought to yo<sup>r</sup> L. & my Chamberleyn being together in the preuey Chamber at Hamptō court. & I remēber at y<sup>t</sup> time we talking of y<sup>t</sup> we myslyked of the ppetuytie y<sup>t</sup> they sutors desiered. & this also my l. Chamberleyn him self doth well remēber. Thus much I thought good at his request to remēber to yo<sup>r</sup> L. y<sup>t</sup> it ys very trew hir ma<sup>t</sup> dyd referr the consyderaçon of the sute to vs & to make report thereof accordingly / So I wyll take leue & wishe yo<sup>r</sup> L. p<sup>f</sup>ect health, this viij of Aprill

yo<sup>r</sup> L. assured frend

R. Lcycester

[Addressed] To my vearly good L. my L. Tresorer.

[Endorsed] 8. April. 1577 The Erle of Leycester to my L. S<sup>r</sup> Ierom Bowes. His sute for playes /

[2. semes *sic*. ptely *i. e.* presently. 3. 6. my Chamberleyn *sic* for my  
l. Chamberleyn (*cf. l. 9.*)]

## V

[1577, October 6. William Fleetwood, Recorder of London, to Lord Burghley (*Lansdowne MS.* 24, f. 196, art. 80). Printed by Wright, *Queen Elizabeth and her Times*, ii. 66. Fleetwood was Recorder from 1571 to 1591 and wrote numerous and detailed letters to Burghley on matters of London local government. Most, but not all, of these have been printed by Wright from the *Lansdowne MSS.*; Nos. VI, VIII, and IX belong to the same series. The Theatre was built by James Burbage, one of the Earl of Leicester's players, in 1576. It stood in the liberty of Halliwell, which formed part of the parish of Shoreditch in Middlesex. The Lieutenant of the Tower was Sir Owen Hopton.]

My very good Lo: vpon Michaelmas Day at night M<sup>r</sup> Thomas Dudley shewed me the end of my Lo. his masters l<sup>res</sup> what falt he found w<sup>t</sup> the Duchie touching the plage / his Lo: offred very honorablie to geue as muche as any shold geue for the relief of the sick / he thretened Ledsham the Bailiff who is his man to pluck his coat from his back and to punish him otherwise for his negligens / And yesterday at my Lo: Maiors at dyner the M<sup>r</sup> of the Rolles privatlie shewed vnto me the end of yo<sup>r</sup> Lo. l<sup>res</sup> much to the same effect that my said Lo. were of but there in sted of Ledsham yo<sup>r</sup> Lo. touched me / My very good Lo: I haue weekly myself surveyed the Duchie and haue taken that order there, that if the like had bene executed elsewhere I think the plage had not so greatly encreased as this last week yt did / And truly my Lo. I did twise passe w<sup>th</sup> all the Constables betwene the barres and the Tiltyard in both the libties to see the howses shett in / The M<sup>r</sup> of the Rolles is very wise and circumspect and I a very foole / for I am sure I did go my self to see thinges effectually done into such plac<sup>e</sup> as (being it spoken w<sup>t</sup>out offens) neither he nor my cozen Holcroft the Bailiff either wold or durst

doe / Vpon Thursday last M<sup>r</sup> Garter and Northway not as kynges  
 but as ffrendes, w<sup>t</sup> m<sup>r</sup> Thomas Pole and my self were at Romford  
 at the burying of m<sup>r</sup> Cade of the Duchie w<sup>c</sup> did weare blackp /  
 At dyner M<sup>r</sup> Pole taryed not, for he had taken a great surfett  
 w<sup>t</sup> eating of fresh pork the day before at the Musters / The  
 Deane of Powles preached / At the Sermon was my worshipfull  
 frynde m<sup>rs</sup> Cook of Gwydy hall and her gentelwomen and  
 trayne, but she wold not tarry dyner / Katheryn Carus the late  
 Iustice wiffe my Contry woman w<sup>t</sup> all her pryde and popery is this  
 week gone (as I trust) to god / she died in Bisshop Thirlbys  
 chamber in m<sup>rs</sup> Blackwells howse in the black ffryers / Yo<sup>r</sup>  
 Lo: may think it strang y<sup>t</sup> yesterday morning at fower of the  
 clock I was at London and at vij w<sup>th</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Secretory, and then  
 again at London w<sup>t</sup> the M<sup>r</sup> of the Rolls at my Lo: Maiors at Dyner  
 where I sawe yo<sup>r</sup> Lo: postscript towching the Duchie / The  
 Citie do vse to allowe me horses to the Court / they provided for  
 me posters betwene London and Waltham / and according to  
 theire posting pase I vsed them betwene London and Wyndesor /  
 At my Lord Maiors there dynded the M<sup>r</sup> of the Rolles Iustice  
 Sowthcot Sr Wiffm Damsell M<sup>r</sup> Levetenant S<sup>r</sup> Rowland Hayward  
 Mr Iustice Randoll Alderman Pulliso and my self / At after dyner  
 we heard a brabell betwene John Wotton and the Levetenūt  
 soñe of the one pte, and certen ffreholders of Shordyche, for  
 a matter at the Theater. I mistrust that Wotton wilbe found in  
 the fault although he complayned / My lo: Treasurer that dead  
 is gave me the Stuardship of ffarnham Ryall besides Wyndesor  
 after the death of M<sup>r</sup>. Iohn Nudigate the ffee is xxs p Annū /  
 M<sup>r</sup> Receyvor of the Duchie wold nedes have it from me / My  
 lord gave me faire wordes and promises that I shold haue  
 a better in Buckinghamshire / I yelded vp my Patent to my lo.  
 and after was faine to kepe the Court my self vntill Mr Receiver  
 had gotten a sufficient Deputy / My Lo: it is nowe void / And  
 if it may stand w<sup>t</sup> yo<sup>r</sup> Lo. favor to let me haue it again, I will  
 assure yo<sup>r</sup> honor I will deale trulie between her Matie and her  
 Tenannt, and accompt my self most bounden (as I am in dead) to  
 yo<sup>r</sup> Lo / My Lo. I was once Stuerd of S<sup>t</sup> Helens tenure in

Dochett hard by Wyndesor / Iohn Thomworth wold neu' cease vntill he had wrong it out of my handes and that was done by the cousell of Ockam who was his chief Director in those thingp / My fellow LLoyd told me that yo<sup>r</sup> honors pleasure was y<sup>t</sup> I shold write suche thingp as fell out here / and therefore I am the bolder to let yo<sup>r</sup> Lo: to vnderstand of thingp that are but mere nugaçons / My said fellow LLoyd is wonderful well liked of here emongest vs / Vpon Tuesdaie last my Lo: Kep cessed vs the Commissioners even as we were cessed before / And gaue vs the same allowans for Complaintp that we had the last time / There is a broile of excommunicaçon betwene the Archb: of York and the mynster of Duresme about the Visitaçon / I think my Lo. Archeb: is in the wrong My Lo. Kep graunteth forth a Cõmission for the same cause / The rumor is here that m<sup>r</sup> Iustice Sowthcot or M<sup>r</sup> Iefferes shalbe chief Baron / The talke goeth here also that m<sup>r</sup> Capten of the gard and m<sup>r</sup> Doctor Wylson shalbe of the Counsell the one vizechamberlen and the other Secretary / It is also said that the M<sup>r</sup> of the Rolles M<sup>r</sup> Horsey Capten of Wyght, M<sup>r</sup> Dyer and M<sup>r</sup> Doctor lewys shalbe of the priue Councell / these matters haue occupied Powles all the last week / Every honest man here is desirous that her Ma<sup>tie</sup> shold aide the prince of Orenge / S<sup>r</sup> Iohn Clystons wife my Contrewoman is dead in chieldbed, he is a sorowful man, she was the vertuoust Lady that ever I knew to come either owt of hornby or Lathom / I wold to god her Sisters had ben like her / S<sup>r</sup> Iohn Clyston is pñtly at Clyng psonage nere Braynford w<sup>ch</sup> was ons yo<sup>r</sup> Lo: w<sup>th</sup> my Cozen Willm fletewood who married wydow Copston being S<sup>r</sup> Iohns Sister / The Cession is at Newgate tomorowe the gaole is full / At the last Cessions there were executed xvij at Tyborne, and one Barlow borne in Norff but of the howse of Barloos nere manchester in Cõñ Lanc' was pressed, they were all notable Cutpurses and hors-stealers / it was the quietest Cessions that ever I was at / There were no mo Justicp but my Lo. Maior S<sup>r</sup> Willm Damsell and my self / There was playne dealing and neither favor nor pcialitie / they were the most notable theefp in this Land / The Court was

at Wyndesor / there was not any re pryved / my Lady Alyngton  
is here in London syck / here be no noble men but my Lo:  
Wentworth / Thus most humblie I take my leaue of yo<sup>r</sup> good  
Lo: this first Sonday after Michaelmas Att Bacon howse in  
London 1577.

Yo<sup>r</sup> Lo: most humble  
W Fletewoode  
Recorder

[Addressed] To the right ho: and my very good Lord my Lord  
Treasorer of England.

[Endorsed] 6. Octb. 1577 M<sup>r</sup> Recorder of London to my L.  
Aduertisementp from London

[20. kynges *i. e.* kings-at-arms.]

VI

[1578, July 21. William Fleetwood to Lord Burghley (*Lansdowne MS.* 26, f. 191, art. 67). Printed in Wright, *Queen Elizabeth and her Times*, ii. 86. For Thomas Iremonger (l. 34) cf. W. W. Greg, *Henslowe's papers*, 43.]

My very good L: sithence my last writinge to yo<sup>r</sup> hono<sup>r</sup>, yt soe  
fell out vpon ffriday laste that vpon the banck syde two fell out  
and the one charged the other with beinge vpon Sunday then  
last paste at Mons<sup>r</sup> Malvesours the ffrenche Imbasado<sup>r</sup> at Masse/  
The matter was brought to me, by examinaçon I found yt to be  
trewe and the p<sup>te</sup> Offendo<sup>r</sup> wold not be knowen of any mo, But  
he sayed that there were diu<sup>se</sup> Englishmen there whome he  
knewe not / Vpon Sunday laste I sent two or three thether to  
masse and they told me that all the Doores stand open and all  
men may come in at theire pleasure to the Masse / This last  
Sunday at after none a welshman of Brecknock sheire being an  
old servingman and also beinge a stubborn rude ffellowe was  
there at Masse. I haue him in Newgate, he will not be knowen  
of any that were there, he wold fayne haue denied his beinge  
there, but my proffp were to strong / There was Lewes de Pays

a Spaniard who is a comon diser and hawnter of Tables, and besides a ffree denizon this man was at Masse there I haue told hym that I will informe the ll. of the Counsoll of his misbehavio<sup>r</sup>, he cannot deny his beinge there / diu<sup>se</sup> Englishmen were at the Masse but they tarried dynner at the Imbassado<sup>r</sup>s and were not sene to come fourthe, there was as I learne secret intelligens given them / Done Barnerdino de Mendoza dyned at the Imbassado<sup>r</sup>s yesterday, there was a greate ffeaste and plentie of Redd Deere and othe<sup>r</sup> venizon / Mons<sup>r</sup> Malvesor lady his wief departethe toward ffrance to morrow beinge Tewsdaye / Vpon wensday laste the ffrenche Imbassado<sup>r</sup> was all day at Mordaunte place nere S<sup>t</sup> Barthelmewes hospitall with Mons<sup>r</sup> Mendoza / Paradvventure there may some rumo<sup>r</sup> come to yo<sup>r</sup> hono<sup>r</sup>s heringe howe that my ladie S<sup>t</sup> Wiflm Morgans wief, vpon Saterday at night with out any man of her owne accompaned w<sup>th</sup> a Gent<sup>'</sup> of my l<sup>'</sup> of Pembrok and one M<sup>res</sup>. Towt went by water betwene ix and x vpon Saterday at night from the black ffryers to Buckhurst stayers and theire landed and tarried a pretty while, This beinge brought to my vnderstandinge by one Iremonger her highnes Bargeman I caused hym to goe with me yesterday beinge Sunday vnto my ladie Buckhurste to knowe of her La: whether my sayd lady Morgan that laste night before had byn with her La: or noe / My Ladie Buckhurste told me that she had been there, and noe further than beneathe in the Garden, and soe toke her leave to goe to M<sup>r</sup> Altham in Essex to her mother, And I beinge this answered did satisfye my sayd Intelligenser w<sup>th</sup> greate thanckp for his vigilant care that he had to her highnes whose sworne S<sup>r</sup>vaunte he was, for he thought verelie that my ladie Morgan had gone to the ffrenche Imbassado<sup>r</sup> the w<sup>ch</sup> fell not owte soe whereof I was very glad / Here haue wee come vnto vs the Abbott of Dunferlinge whome my L. Maio<sup>r</sup> and I appointed to John Dymmockp house in ffanchurche strete. My advise was to place hym there because yt is neither nere watersyde nor yet in any out corner as Geruldies lodginge is and the rest but in an open streete. et hoc absq; postica / Surelie my L. if there were noe wiser then I all the Imbassadors shuld be lodged

either in the Sadlers hall or in the Mercers hall or in the Grossers hall the w<sup>th</sup> halles are all in the Cheape syde, in the face of all the worlde / Vpon ffridaye laste my l of london my l wentworthe and m<sup>r</sup> Lievetenūte (but the M<sup>r</sup> of the Rolles was absent) did assemble at my l Maio<sup>rs</sup>, in assistaunce for good order shewed furthe the .ll. l<sup>res</sup>, S<sup>r</sup> Tho<sup>m</sup>s Gresham the Deane of westm m<sup>r</sup>. Iustice Southcote S<sup>r</sup> willm Damsell and others were wont to be of the nomber ; But surelie I think they were forgotten at the writinge of my .ll. theire honorable l<sup>res</sup> / And even at the instant writinge hereof there be fower studentp of the houses in holborn brought before me for beinge in the streatp yesternight at xij of the clock, eache of them with excedinge verie longe staves and in the end of every staff a longe pece of a sword blade / They are of good houses, and because I feare my .ll. o<sup>r</sup> Assistaūis wold be over hard with them beinge all vnder xx<sup>tie</sup> yeres of age, I haue after xxiiij<sup>tie</sup> howres ymprisonment shakn them vpp, and sent them to thei<sup>r</sup> Principalles to be better loked unto / My L: Iohn kirby that buylded the faire howse vpon Bednall Grene is ded so is ffairefax and Bowre all riche men they died of surfeitp / I shewed vnto my .ll. o<sup>r</sup> Assistaūis those pointp that yo<sup>r</sup> hono<sup>r</sup> in tyme paste gave vs for good order / Plaies, vnlawful games, ffensse skoles vacaboundp and suche like to be suppressed, w<sup>th</sup> a vigilant eye to the plage to the watches, and to laye often privie searches / At o<sup>r</sup> laste privy searches M<sup>r</sup> ffisher and I toke above lx Roges beinge all of the cuntre we haue sent them all away at thei<sup>r</sup> pilles, and yet some were well whipped As towchinge Abraham the Rider if yo<sup>r</sup> Lp: Secretarye had not come with hym I assure yo<sup>r</sup> hono<sup>r</sup> I wold not haue seene hym, by my next l<sup>res</sup> I shall send yo<sup>r</sup> Lp: all my mynde towchinge that matter / Thus moste humblie I take my leave of yo<sup>r</sup> hono<sup>r</sup> At Bacon house this xxj<sup>th</sup> of Iulie 1578 / My l keep my ladie and all the howse are come to london this night /

Yo<sup>r</sup> good Lp most humble

W: Fletewoode

[Addressed] To the right honorable & my very good lo. my lo  
Treasurer of England

[Endorsed] 21. Iul. 1578. Mr Recorder to my l. y<sup>r</sup> Resort to  
the french Ambassadors to masse/

## VII

[1583, January 14. Sir Thomas Blank, Lord Mayor, to Lord Burghley (*Lansdowne MS.* 37, f. 8, art. 4). Quoted in Collier, *H. E. D. P.*, i. 243, with an inaccurate reference to *Lansdowne MS.* 73, and printed in Wright, *Queen Elizabeth and her Times*, ii. 183. A letter-book copy, from *Remembrancia*, i. 456, is printed in *Collections*, i. 58. It is misdated on January 18, and contains some variations from the present text, which are recorded in the notes below. The accident in Paris Garden is referred to in two other letters in the *Remembrancia* (*Collections*, i. 60, 64) and in Nos. VIII and X (2) of this series.]

My duetye humblye don to yo<sup>r</sup> l<sup>pp</sup>, I haue accordinge to yo<sup>r</sup> l<sup>pp</sup>  
direction by your l<sup>res</sup> reformed the Catalog of Victuallers howses  
infected w<sup>th</sup>in the liberties of this Citie from the xiiij<sup>th</sup> daie of  
Novembre last beinge w<sup>th</sup>in the twoo monethes apointed by yo<sup>r</sup>  
former l<sup>res</sup> / w<sup>ch</sup> I haue don as your l<sup>p</sup> willed w<sup>th</sup> advise of  
Mr Norton, who informeth me that he hathe herein had speciall  
regard to two thinge, the one to give suche plainè discription  
and note of the stretes and places as maye s<sup>ve</sup> for easye notyce  
to suche as repaire to this Citie, the other that it be in suche  
shortenes as maye be brought into lesse than one face of a shete  
of papre to be fixed in places Convenient. It maye please yo<sup>r</sup>  
l<sup>p</sup> also to consider of the places, w<sup>ch</sup> I haue thought good  
to signifie after my opynion in the note inclosed, havinge  
respecte to westm' and the waye thither, and the entrance  
alwaies into this Citie / ffurther I thought good to move yo<sup>r</sup>  
l<sup>p</sup> to the same intent, that in terme tyme vsuallye in man' all  
the howses in ffletestrete and the stretes and lanes adioyning,  
as also w<sup>th</sup>out Temple barre do vse lodginge Vitailinge or  
lettinge out of Chambers whether it be not yo<sup>r</sup> pleasure that  
all suche howses in those ptes, as do so lodge and lett out



Chambers, though they be not otherwise vsuallie vitailers be likewise noted yf they haue ben infected w<sup>th</sup>in the space of those two monethes, I do humblie thanke yo<sup>r</sup> lp for your honorable and lovinge Care of this Citie in the saide matter of infection and the repaire of the Quenes subiect<sup>r</sup> hither And for my ownè pte will not faile in diligens by your direction accordinge to my duetie, It maye please yo<sup>r</sup> lp to be further advertised (w<sup>ch</sup> I thinke you haue alredie hard) of a greate mysshappe at Parise gardeine, where by ruyn of all the scaffold<sup>r</sup> at once, ysterdaie a greate nombre of people, are some presentlie slayne, and some maymed and greavouslie hurte, It giveth greate occasion to acknowledge the hande of god for suche abuse of the sabboth daie and moveth me in Consciens to beseche yo<sup>r</sup> lp to give order for redresse of suche contempt of gods service, I haue to that ende treated w<sup>th</sup> some Iustic<sup>r</sup> of peace of that Countie, who signifie them self<sup>r</sup> to haue verye good zeale, but alledge want of Comysion, w<sup>ch</sup> we humblie referre to the Consideraçon of yo<sup>r</sup> honorable wisdomes, And so I leve to trowble yo<sup>r</sup> lp / At london the xiiij<sup>th</sup> of Ianuarye 1582

Yo<sup>r</sup> L<sup>ps</sup> humble  
Thomas Blank Maior

[Addressed] To the right honorable my singler good lorde my lorde highe Tresurer of Englande

[Endorsed] 14 Jan: 1582. The L. Maior to my l. Certificat of y<sup>e</sup> Sicknes. Mischance at Paris garden.

|                                    |   |                  |
|------------------------------------|---|------------------|
| [7. plaine certaine description R. | 15. the Citie R.  | 21. they are     |
| not R.                             | 25-7. And . . . duetie. <i>omit</i> R.  | 28. heard, of R. |
| scaffold R.                        | 31. mayned R.   | 29. alledge      |
| <i>omit</i> R.                     | 32. abuse on the R.   | 36. alledge      |
| <i>omitted above.</i>              | 38. <i>after</i> wisdom R. <i>insertis</i> And . . . directions . . . dutie. as |                  |
|                                    | 39. xvij <sup>th</sup> R.]  |                  |

## VIII

[1583, January 19. William Fleetwood to Lord Burghley (*Lansdowne MS.* 37, f. 10, art. 5). Printed by Wright, *Queen Elizabeth and her Times*, ii. 184.]

my very good lo. according to the advise that yo<sup>r</sup> lo. gave me by yo<sup>r</sup> lo last lres I caused m<sup>r</sup> Seckford of the Court of ward<sup>p</sup> m<sup>r</sup> harris m<sup>r</sup> Smith and m<sup>r</sup> yonge & my selff attending vpon theym to repaire the disorders that yo<sup>r</sup> lo: retorned vnto me agayne / They did it most exactlie and swore witnes vpon the same / the w<sup>ch</sup> booke I have now retorned agayne corrected & reformed vpon Thursdaye last I being at the Cessions at ffynsburie I found the chiefestp of the twoo libertes there exclaiming vpon these yowthes the Iusticp wold nedp have them indicted / they are Indicted for comen disturbers of the peax / for night walkers / for breakers of glasse wyndowes lannterns & suche like / and principallie for the great riott that they comitted the second of this month of Ian. / light is speciallie Indicted for singing in the churche vpon Childermas day / fallantida dillie &c<sup>t</sup> / my lo. bisshop was at the arraignem<sup>t</sup> of Light / light confessed all that he was charged w<sup>th</sup> / The residew are not yet arraigned albeit they be indicted / My lo. of leicestr haith ben sued vnto by the principalls of New Inne and lions Inne for the setting at libertie of these yonge gentilmen I do beseche yo<sup>r</sup> lo. to be good vnto theym for my good lo. of Leic' sake / but looking throughly in to their demeaners I think the Inhabitauns will crie owt yf Knyveton and Light be not bound to their good behavior / If the other be sett at libertie I do pceyve they intend to lead a new lyff / The benche at the Gaole delyverie of new gate dyd take order that light who was convicted shuld be bound to his good behavoier / I do not see how he can well be discharged from that band / I do suppose that light and kniveton are dissended of the blood of Nero the Tiraunt I never knew of suche twoo tyrannicall yowthes the elder not being xx<sup>ti</sup>. yeres old / I beseche god to make his s3vauntp my lo. Chauncellor by m<sup>r</sup> harris the Iustice sent word vnto vs that we shuld pcede at that Cessions agaynst

theym for the satisfyng of the people / if the principals were looked vnto and specially of new Inne all wold be well I do beseche your good lo. to be good vnto the residew of theym for surelie they are most penitent for their misbehavoiers / but for Light and Kniveton I see no grace in theym / Thus humbly I take my leave of yo<sup>r</sup> good lo. This satterdaye at night 15582.

your good lo most bounden

W. Fletewoode

A Dyarie

Vpon saterday last I was occupied all the daye in the exãiaçon of one levenson and of his confederatp and of sundrie Roberies & suche like / This levenson is a dangerus Ruffen / he haith misvsed my lo. of Oxenford w<sup>th</sup> wordp of indignitie /

Vpon sonday after diner wee of the Citie studied what m<sup>r</sup> Controller wold allege agaynst the Citie for the office of garbeling /

Vpon the same daye the violaters of the Sabothe were punished by godp pvidens at Paris garden and as I was writing of these last wordp loo here is a booke sett ~~downe~~ vpon the same matter /

Vpon monday m<sup>r</sup> Smithe m<sup>r</sup> Owen and my selff occupied all the daye w<sup>th</sup> m<sup>r</sup> deane in westm' for the punishm<sup>t</sup> of bawdes & strompetp of whome some were whipped / soñe were carted but all banished /

Vpon Tewsdaye all that daye was spent at lambeth in the old duke of Norff hall / m<sup>r</sup> Controller seat there at the tables and vpon the benche satt first in order m<sup>r</sup> Awbrie / mr Lewes, m<sup>r</sup> of the Rollp s3 Rowland & s3 Ni. woodruf / The Iurie were old Courteers & walshemen the verdict is not yet geven / how we shall speed I know not / but I am suer m<sup>r</sup> Controller hym selff was & semed most indifferent / we feare not the case so longe as yo<sup>r</sup> lo is o<sup>r</sup> supreme Iuge / I wold to god we were at quiet w<sup>th</sup> these great Counsellers

Vpon Weddensdaye wee were occupied abowt the dealingp of these vnthrift of the Chauncere / Att after diner my brother

fflowrdews man browght me evell newes but at his retorne he told me how muche he was bound to yo<sup>r</sup> lo. in the behalff of his m<sup>r</sup> / Suerlie my lo. if m<sup>r</sup> hennyngham had ben at a Cessions or Gaole delyverie at london he shold have taried by it vntill the Q. or the ll of the C. had otherwise determined /

Vpon Thursday I kept twoo Cessions of peax the one at ffinnsburie / the other at the yeld hall / Att after diner I was occupied in the high cōmission abowt the forsayd levenson and the knight Marshalls men who tooke his pte / that donne I was sent fore to my lo. of Leic' abowt the gentilmen of the Chauncerie /

Vpon ffriday from .8. in the morning vnto .8. at the night the gaole deliverie was where m<sup>r</sup> Tresham & his felloos were convict for recusans. my lo. Vaux was not brought forth because he was a Baron /

There were three condempned and put to execuçon this daye in the morninge /

Vpon this Satterdaye by Coñmission frome m<sup>r</sup> Secretorie m<sup>r</sup> Attorney Soliceter Norton & my selff satt in the Temple hall abowt the Isle of Serke and for the execuçon of Iustice there / The striffe is betwene S<sup>r</sup> Tho layton and a gentilman of Gersay /

Att after diner my Cossen holcroft brought me a table from yo<sup>r</sup> lo. for westm' and the duchie / to be printed / I have ben about the setting of the forme thereof vntill the wryting of these lres /

And thus yo<sup>r</sup> lo. may see that I am so exercised that I have no leasure at all skerse to read a litteltons case / much lesse to studie my demurrers that I must argew / my twoo lo. chieff Iusticp are come to london /

m<sup>r</sup> Levetenūt and the officers are occupied at this tyme in surveighing of the ordinauns in the Towr /

In the Middell Temple garden hard vnder my lo. of Leicestr wall Tow of the gardeners boyes fell syck of the plage one was buried yesterdaye the other by my meanes is removed to Glomesburie /

About a sevensight past yong m<sup>r</sup> Cecill yo<sup>r</sup> lo. son about vij  
of the Clocke passed by seynt Clement<sup>p</sup> Church / I standing  
there to se the lanterns honge owt & to see if I cold mete  
w<sup>th</sup> any vtragijs dealers. There stood vj of the lowest Inhabitans  
w<sup>th</sup> me loo qd they ye may see how a noblemans so<sup>me</sup> can vse  
hym selff and how he putteth of his capp to poore men / our lord  
blesse hym qd they / I writ this for two purposes the one is that  
your lo. hath cause to thanke god for so vertues a child / The  
other is that throwgh yo<sup>r</sup> lo. good meane the Principalls may be  
compelled to looke better to their charge /  
my lo. Chanc<sup>r</sup> / my lo cheff Iustice of England my lord Chieff  
baron S<sup>r</sup> Georg bromley my selff and many other of good call-  
ing at this daye / were of Clifford<sup>p</sup> Inne where m<sup>r</sup> fauchett of  
heref<sup>r</sup> shire was Principall / he kept vs all in so good order  
that none durst presume to play any wicked or lewd p<sup>tp</sup>  
I end fearing to troble your honor w<sup>th</sup> these trefling Newgacons /  
W: F.

[Addressed] To the right honorable & my singuler good lo. my  
lo. Treasoure<sup>r</sup> of England in hast

[Endorsed] 19. Ian: 1582. The Recorder to my l. Towching  
y<sup>e</sup> Demeano<sup>ms</sup> of Light Knifton and others of y<sup>e</sup> Innes of Chancery.

[8. chiefest<sup>e</sup> sic. 10 and 73. peax i. e. peace. 30. make his sic for  
make them his? 38. 15582 sic for 1582. 59. Awbric doubtful.  
103. Glomesburie sic for Blomesburie? 119. Newgacons i. e. nugationes or  
nugae, with a pun on Newgate?, but cf. p. 154.]

## IX

[1584, June 18. William Fleetwood to Lord Burghley (*Lansdowne MS.* 41,  
f. 31, art. 13). Printed in Wright, *Queen Elizabeth and her Times*, ii. 226. The  
Lord Chamberlain was Charles, Lord Howard of Effingham (*Collections*, i. 38), and  
the Vice-Chamberlain Sir Christopher Hatton. Henry, Lord Hunsdon, had  
players in 1582 and 1585, and it is possible that James Burbage, whom one would  
naturally take to be meant by 'the owner of the Theatre', was one of them.  
Fleay (*H. of. S.*, 34) says that he was one of the original Queen's men in March,

1583, but there is no evidence whatever of this. Philip Howard, Earl of Arundel, had a company, who played at Leicester and Ipswich in 1584, but I have not come across them in any other year.]

Right honorable and my very good Lo. Vpon whit sondaye there was a very good Sermond preached at the New churchyard nere bethelme / wherat my Lo. Maior was w<sup>th</sup> his bretherne / and by reason no playes were the same daye all the citie was quiet /

Vpon mondaye I was at the Court and went to Kingstone to bedd & vpon Twesdaye I kepet the lawe daye for the wholl libertie of Kingeston and fownd all quiet and in good order / There lyeth in Kingston S<sup>r</sup> Iohn Savage of Chesshire w<sup>th</sup> his ladie at m<sup>r</sup> Le Grises his howse the w<sup>ch</sup> is at Vicarege /

That night I retorned to London and found all the wardes full of watchers / the cause thereof was for that very nere the Theatre or Curten at the tyme of the Playes there laye a prentice sleping vpon the Grasse and one Challes at Grostock dyd turne vpon the Too vpon the belly of the same prentice / whervpon the apprentice start vp and after wordp they fell to playne bloues / the companie encressed of bothe sides to the nosmber of v<sup>c</sup> at the least / This Challes exclaimes and said that he was a gentelman and that the apprentice was but a Rascall / and some there were litell better then roogp that tooke vpon theym the name of gentilmen and said the prentizes were but the skomme of the worlde / Vpon these troubles the prentizes began the next daye being Twesdaye to make mutines and assembles and dyd conspire to have broken the presones & to have taken furthe the prentizes that were imprisoned / but my lo and I having intelligens thereof appressed .iiij. or .v. of the chieff conspirators who are in Newgate and stand Indicted of their lewd demeanors /

Vpon Weddensdaye one Browne a serving man in a blew coat a shifting fellowe having a perrelous witt of his owne entending a spoie if he cold have browght it to passe / did at Theatre doore querell w<sup>th</sup> certen poore boyes handicraft prentises and strook some of theym and lastlie he w<sup>th</sup> his sword wondend and maymed one of the boyes vpon the left hand / where vpon there

assembled nere a m<sup>l</sup> people / This browne dyd very cuninglie  
convey hym selff awaye / but by chaunse he was taken after and  
browght to m<sup>r</sup> humfrey Smithe and because no man was able  
to charge hym he dismissed hym / and after this browne was  
browght before m<sup>r</sup> Yonge / where he vsed hym selff so connynglie  
and subillie / no man being there to charge hym that there also  
he was demised / And after I sent a warraunt for hym and the  
Constables w<sup>th</sup> the deputie at the bell in holbourne found hym  
in a plor fast locked in and he wold not obeye the warraunt but  
by the meane of the hoost he was conveyed a waye and then I  
sent for the hoost and caused hym to appere at Newgat at the  
Sessions of Oier and determiner / where he was cōmitted vntill  
he browght furth his gest / the next daye after he browght  
hym forthe and so we Indicted hym for his misdemeano<sup>r</sup> / This  
browne is a cōmen Cossiner a thieff & a horse stealer / and  
colloreth all his doynge here abowt this towne w<sup>th</sup> a sute that  
he haith in the lawe agaynst a brother of his in Staffordshire /  
he resteth now in Newgate /

Vpon the same weddensdaie at night two companions one being  
a Tailor and the other a Clerck of the cōm<sup>on</sup> place bothe of the  
dutchie and bothe very lewd fellows fell owt abowt an harlott /  
and the Taylor raised the prentises and other light psones and  
thincking that the Clerk was rune in to lyons Inne / came to the  
howse w<sup>th</sup> CCC at the least brake downe the wyndowes of the  
howse / and strooke at the gentilmen / during w<sup>ch</sup> broyle one  
Raynoldp a bakers sonne came into fflete streate and there made  
solleme pclamaçon for Cloobes / the streate rose and tooke and  
browght hym vnto me and the next daye we Indicted hym also  
for this misdemeano<sup>r</sup> w<sup>th</sup> many other moo /

Vpon weddensdaye Thursdaye ffrydaye and Satterdaye we  
dyd nothing els but sitt in cōmission and examine these mis-  
demeanors / we had good helpe of my lord Anderson and m<sup>r</sup>  
Sackforthe /

Vpon Sonndaye my lo sent ij Aldermen to the Court for the  
suppressing and pulling downe of the Theatre and Curten  
All the LL agreed therevnto saving my Lord Chamberlen and

mr Vizch but we obteyned a lfe to suppress theym all / Vpon the same night I sent for the quenes players and my lo of Arundel his players and they all willinglie obeyed the LL lres / The chiefest of her highnes players advised me to send for the owner of the Theater who was a stubburne fellow and to bynd hym / I dyd so / he sent me word that he was my Lo of hunsdons man and that he wold not come at me but he wold in the mornyng ride to my lord / then I sent the vndershereff for hym and he browght hym to me / and at his comyng he stowtted me owt very hastie / and in the end I shewed hym my lo. his m<sup>rs</sup>. hand and then he was more quiet / but to die for it he wold not be bound / And then I mynding to send hym to prison he made sute that he might be bound to appere at the Oier & determiner the w<sup>ch</sup> is to morrowe / where he said that he was suer the Court wold not bynd hym being a Counselers man / And so I have graunted his request / where he shalbe sure to be bound or els ys lyke to do worse

Vpon Soundaye at after nowne one brewers man killed a nother at Islyngton / the lyke pte was doñe at white chappell at the same tyme /

The same sondaie at night my lo ffitzgerrold w<sup>th</sup> a nosmber of gentilmen w<sup>th</sup> hym at moore gatt met a tall yong fellowe being a pretize and strooke hym vpon the face w<sup>th</sup> his hatt wherevpon my lo and his compane were glad to take a howse and dyd skerslie eschape w<sup>th</sup> owt great danger The shereff cam and fett hym to his howse where he lodged and imprisond one Cotton that pcured my lo. to misvse the prentize The same night at Aldersgate a prentise was put in the kayege and the kaige was broken by a nosmber of lewd fellowes and I hereing thereof dyd send my men for hym and sent hym to the Counter where to morow he shall answeere for his misdemeano<sup>r</sup> w<sup>th</sup> others /

A ffrencheman a dweller in ffletestrete a hanger vpon mouns Malvesour for having received a ffrenche boye in to his howse and for the conveying hym aweye who had robbed one of my lord of Bedford gentilmen was browght vnto me / my lo. Malveso<sup>r</sup> sent vnto me for hym and said he wold do Iustice



vpon hym selff / I told the mesenger what the lawe was / and willed hym to bringe me surtes and he shuld be bailed vntill the ll. were certified thereof / the w<sup>ch</sup> they refused to doo / but to morowe at the oier and determiner I will doo as I am advised by my ll the Iusticp / I sent the prisoner w<sup>th</sup> his cause vnto m<sup>r</sup> Tresorer thinkinge that he wold being a counsellor have taken order therein but he returned the prisoner agayne to me / Suerlie my lo. I love not to have to deale w<sup>th</sup> those Embassadors for suerlie I doo often see / here / and fynde thingp done by theym that are neither godlie nor honorable /

The eldest sonne of m<sup>r</sup> henrie Isham vpon mondaye at night being yesterdaie fowght in cheape side w<sup>th</sup> one Boat that is or latelie was m<sup>r</sup> vizchamberlens man / And al was whiche of theym was the better gentilman and for taking of the wall /

This daie m<sup>r</sup> Cheney of the boyes browght me his yongest sonne being Nephew to S<sup>r</sup> henrie lee / and wold nedes have me to send hym to bridwell / where he had pvided a chamber for hym / but I wold not agree therevnto but sent hym to be kept w<sup>th</sup> my lord of Wynt' Bailiff at his howse the w<sup>ch</sup> is a place bothe swete and cleane / the yonge gent' hathe hurt twoo whereof I heare they are lyke to die / the gentilman as I can pceyve is wild Et lucidus inter valla / And even now cometh Inne my lord of Wintons bailiff and telleth me that he is glad to hire three men to kepe hym both daye and night in this extreme ffrenze

This weddensdaye mornynge The oyer and determiner sat at Newgate for the quieting of the dailie and nightlie brawles / there appered my lo. ffitz Gerrald and one Cotton a yonge man of xviij yeres of age / more bold then wise / a mervelus Audicius yowth standing altogether vpon his genterie / it so fell owt that by dew examinacon my lo. of Kildares soñe delt verie wisely well and circūspectlie w<sup>th</sup> owt any maner of evell behavov in any maner of wise / m<sup>r</sup> wynter sonne and heire of m<sup>r</sup> George Wynter deceased was there & advised my lo so to do / for tyme experiens m<sup>r</sup> doctor lewes and the admirall cōmission have made hym a man of good vnderstandinge / An old mucision of the

quenes had this last night Meretricem in suo lectulo / one Alen  
 a Constable being homo barbatus toke theym / the Italiam most  
 violentlie tore of Alens berd and said he might have a wenche in  
 his chamber because for that he was the quenes man / Alen  
 now is become a Marques vto / my lo. Maio<sup>r</sup> haithe bound the  
 Italian to aunswere at the next gaole delyverie /

[Endorsed] 18. Iunij: 1584. m<sup>r</sup> Recorders Discourse of sundryc  
 Broiles in Whitsonweeke.

[17, 90, 98. nosmber or possibly nosmber sic for number. 30. spoic sic.  
 32. wondend sic for wounded. 53. place sic for pleas. 70. Vizch  
 i. e. Vicechamberlain cf. l. 118. 73. chiefest sic. 79. stowtted sic.  
 106. vpon hym self sic for vpon hym hym self.]

## X

[c. 1584, November. (1) Petition of the Queen's Players to the Privy Council, and (2) Answer of the Corporation of London enclosing (3) Act of Common Council of December 6, 1574 (*Lansdowne MS.* 20, f. 23, arts. 10-13). Strype, in his edition of Stowe's *Survey of London* (1720), i. 292, prints (1) and the Remedies from (2); Collier, *H. E. D. P.*, i. 208, prints (1), part of (2), and (3); and Hazlitt, *The English Drama and Stage*, 27, prints (1) and (3); but the introductory part of (2), which gives the clue to the date of the papers, is here printed for the first time. The documents are bound up out of order in the *Lansdowne* volume, (3) being art. 10 and (1) being inserted as art. 12 between the two parts of (2) which are the reply to it. Each article is officially endorsed in pencil with the date 1575, and the same date is assigned by the printed *Catalogue of the Lansdowne Manuscripts* (1819) to arts. 10, 12, and 13. This has misled Collier and nearly all subsequent historians of the stage into a belief that players were expelled from the City more or less permanently in 1575, and that this expulsion led to the building of the Theatre and the Curtain in 1576. The difficulty due to the description of the petitioners as the Queen's men is met by Collier with a suggestion that 'perhaps the Earl of Leicester's servants might so call themselves after the grant of the patent in May 1574', and by Fleay (*II. of S.*, 46) with an assertion that 'the whole body of then existing men actors who were going to perform at Court at Christmas (Warwick's, Leicester's, Howard's)' were meant. I called attention to the true bearing of the documents in a review of T. F. Ordish, *Early London Theatres* in the *Academy* for August 24, 1895, but the misconception still exists; it is found, for instance, in E. N. S. Thompson, *The Controversy between the Puritans and the Stage* (1903, *Yale Studies*, xx), 41. The facts, how-

ever, are correctly given in V. C. Gildersleeve, *Government Regulation of the Elizabethan Drama* (1908, *Columbia University Studies in English*, II. iv. 1), 171. It is clear from that part of the Corporation's Answer which Collier suppressed that the real date of the Lansdowne documents is later than the 'ruine at Parise garden,' which was on January 13, 1583 (*Collections*, i. 58), and it must also be later than the establishment of the Queen's men in March, 1583, and their first performances at court in the winter of 1583-4 (*Modern Language Review*, ii. 7). Letters from the Privy Council and Sir Francis Walsingham requiring the admission of the company to the City for that winter are in the Remembrancia (*Collections*, i. 66). The present petition was, on the face of it, written at the beginning of a winter, and the most natural interpretation would place it in the winter of 1584. It might conceivably be 1585. There is no reference to it in the Acts of the Privy Council, and it probably belongs to the period of the missing register between June, 1582, and February, 1586. Unfortunately, the Remembrancia also have a gap between March, 1584, and January, 1587. It will be observed that the Lansdowne papers are not, as they stand, complete, since they lack the Articles sent with the players' Petition, and also the printed Act of Common Council sent by the Corporation. This, however, exists and a copy is preserved in the British Museum with the press-mark 796 E. 37. It was printed by Hugh Singleton and bears no date. In the British Museum *Catalogue* it is conjecturally dated 1587 and classified as an Act of the Court of Aldermen. But a comparison of its Article 62, which is printed under the erroneous date 'shortly after Dec. 1575' in Collier, *H. E. D. P.*, i. 211, with the Answer in the present documents leaves no doubt as to its identification. It is probably the 'late inhibition' referred to in the correspondence between the Privy Council and the City during April and May, 1582 (*Collections*, i. 52). The gaps in the records leave the issue of the controversy undetermined, but it is certain that the players were not permanently excluded from the city. Strype says that the proposed Remedies were adopted, but it is doubtful whether he had any evidence other than the Lansdowne MS. itself. Owing to the same cause the letters from the Privy Council banishing plays in places near London on Sabbath days are missing.]

(1)

To the Right Honorable the Lordes of her Ma<sup>ties</sup>  
Privie Counsell:

In most humble manner beseche yo<sup>r</sup> LLp: yo<sup>r</sup> dutifull and daylie Orators the Queenes Ma<sup>ties</sup> poore Players wheras the tyme of o<sup>r</sup> service draweth verie neere so that of necessitie wee must needes haue excercise to enable vs the better for the same and also for o<sup>r</sup> better helpe and relief in o<sup>r</sup> poore lyvinge the reason of

the yere beyng past to playe att anye of the houses w<sup>th</sup>out the Cittye of London as in o<sup>r</sup> articles annexed to this o<sup>r</sup> Supplicacon maye more att large appeere vnto yo<sup>r</sup> LLp: Our most humble peticon ys thatt yt maye please yo<sup>r</sup> LLp to vowchsaffe the readinge of these few Articles and in tender Consideracon of the matters therin mentioned contayninge the verie staye and good state of o<sup>r</sup> Lyvinge to graunt vnto vs the Confirmacon of the same or of as manye or as much of them as shalbe to yo<sup>r</sup> Honors good Lykinge And therw<sup>th</sup> all yo<sup>r</sup> LLp: favorable letters vnto the L. Mayor of London to pmitt vs to excercise w<sup>th</sup>in the Cittye accordinge to the articles and also thatt the said l<sup>res</sup> maye contayne some order to the Justicp of middz as in the same ys mentioned wherbie as wee shall cease the Continewall troublinge of yo<sup>r</sup> LLp for yo<sup>r</sup> often l<sup>res</sup> in the p<sup>r</sup>miss' So shall wee daylie be bownden to praye for the prosperous preservation of yo<sup>r</sup> LLp in honor helth and happines long to Continew:

Yo<sup>r</sup> llp most humblie bownden  
and daylie Orators


her Maties poore Players

[Endorsed] Queens Players their Petition

[7. reason *sic* for season.]

(2 a)

It may please your good L<sup>p</sup>

The orders in London whereunto the players referr them are misconceaued, as may appeare by the two actes of co<sup>m</sup>on Counsell which I send yo<sup>w</sup> w<sup>th</sup> note  directing to the place

The first of these actes of Comon counsell was made in the maraltie of Hawes xvij<sup>o</sup> Regine, and sheweth a maner how plaies were to be tollerated and vsed, althoughe it were rather wished that they were wholly discontinued for the causes appearing in the preamble; w<sup>ch</sup> is for that reason somewhat the longer

Where the players reporte the order to be that they shold not play till after seruice time, the boke ['fo. 8°' added in margin] is otherwise; for it is that they shal not onely not play in seruice time, but also shal not receue any in seruice time to se the same; for thoughe they did forbear beginning to play till seruice were done, yet all the time of seruice they did take in people; w<sup>ch</sup> was the great mischef in withdrawing the people from seruice

Afterward when these orders were not obserued, and the lewd maters of playes encreasced and in the haunt vnto them were found many dangers, bothe for religion, state, honestie of manners, vnthrifnesse of the poore, and danger of infection &c' and the preachers dayly cryeng against the L. maior and his bretheren, in an Act of Coñon Counsel for releafe of the poore w<sup>ch</sup> I send yo<sup>w</sup> printed, in the Article 62 the last leafe, is enacted as there appeareth, by w<sup>ch</sup> there are no enterludes allowed in London in open spectacle but in priuate howses onely at marriages or such like / w<sup>ch</sup> may suffice, and sute is apointed to be made that they may be likewise banished in places adioyning.

Since that time and namely upon the ruine at Parise garden, sute was made to my LL<sup>s</sup> to banishe playes wholly in the places nere London, according to the said lawe letters were obtained from my LL<sup>s</sup> to banishe them on the sabbat Daies /

[Endorsed] Players. T. H.

[29. the ruine at Parise garden. *An official note pencilled against this passage runs* 'This was written after Jany. 1593'! Endm<sup>t</sup>. T. H. possibly T. N.]

(2 b)

Now touching their petition and articles

Where they pretend that they must haue exercise to enable them in their seruice before her ma<sup>tie</sup>;

It is to be noted that it is not conuenient that they present before her ma<sup>tie</sup> such playes as haue ben before cōmonly played in open stages before all the basest assemblies in London and Midd: and therefore sufficient for their exercise and more comely for the place that (as it is pmitted by the sayd lawes of cōmon counsell) they make their exercise of playeng only in priuate houses.

Also it lyeth within the dutiefull care for her Ma<sup>ty</sup> royal psone, that they be not suffred, from playeing in the throng of a multitude and of some infected, to presse so nere to the presence of her ma<sup>tie</sup>.

Where they pretend the mater of stay of their lyuing :

It hath not ben vsed nor thought meete heretofore that players haue or shold make their lyuing on the art of playeng, but men for their lyuings vsing other honest and lawfull artes, or reteyned in honest seruices, haue by companies learned some enterludes for some encrease to their profit by other mens pleasures in vacant time of recreation /

Where in the first article they require the L. Maiors order to continue for the times of playeing on hollydaies :

They misreport the order. ffor all those former orders of toleration are expired by the last printed act of c'mon Counsell /

Also if the toleration were not expired, they do cautelosly omitt the prohibition to receiue any auditoire before cōmon prayer be ended. And it may be noted how vncomely it is for youth to rūne streight from prayer to playes, from Gods seruice to the Deuells.

To the second article.

If in winter the dark do cary incōuenience : and the short time of day after euening prayer do leaue them no leysure : and fowlennesse of season do hinder the passage into the feldes to playes : The remedie is ill conceyued to bring them into London, but the true remedie is to leaue of that vnnecessarie expense of time wherunto God himself geueth so many impediments.

To the third.

To play in playetime is to encrease the plage by infection : to play out of playetime is to draw the plage by offendings of God vpon occasion of such playes.

But touching the pmission of playes vpon the fewnesse of those that dye in any weke : It may please you to remember one special thing. In the report of the plage we report only those that dye, and we make no report of those that recouer and cary infection about them either in their sores rūning or in the<sup>r</sup> garment<sup>p</sup> which sort are the most dangerous. Now, my Lord, when the number of those that dye groweth fewest, the violence of the disease to kill being abated. And therefore while any plage is, though the number reported of them that dye be small, the number infectious is so great that playes are not to be pmitted.

Also in our report, none are noted as dyeing of the plage except they haue tokens, but many dye of the plage that haue no tokens, and sometime fraude of the searchers may deceiue. Therefore it is not reason to reduce their toleration to any number reported to dye of the plage. But it is an vncharitable demaund against the safetie of the Quenes subiectes, and p consequens of her psone, for the gaine of a few whoe if they were not her ma<sup>ties</sup> seruants shold by their profession be rogues, to esteme fifty a weke so small a number as to be cause of tolerating the aduenture of infection.

If y<sup>r</sup> L<sup>p</sup> shal think resonable to pmit them in respect of the fewnesse of such as dye, this were a better way. The ordinarie deaths in London, when there is no plage is betwene xl. and L. and cōmonly vnder xl. as o<sup>r</sup> bokes do shew. the residue or more in plage time is to be thought to be the plage. Now it may be enough if it be pmitted, that when the whole death of all diseases in London shal by ij or iij wekes together be vnder L a weke, they may play (obseruatis alioqui obseruandis) during such time of death vnder L. a weke

Where they require that only her ma<sup>ties</sup> seruants be pmitted to play :

It is lesse euell than to grannt moe. But herin if y<sup>r</sup> ll will so allow them : it may please you to know that the last yer when such toleration was of the Quenes players only, all the places of playeing were filled with men calling themselues the Quenes players. Yo<sup>r</sup> L<sup>s</sup> may do well in yo<sup>r</sup> lettres or warrant for their toleration to expresse the number of the Quenes player and pticularly all their names

### The remedies

That they hold them content w<sup>th</sup> playeing in priuate houses a weddings et c' without publike assemblies.

If more be thought good to be tolerated : that then they be restrained to the orders in the act of cōmon Counsell tempore Hawes /

That they play not openly till the whole death in Londer haue ben by xx daies under 50 a weke nor longer than it sha so continue.

That no playes be on the sabbat

That no playeing be on holydaies but after euening prayer : nor any receiued into the auditorie till after euening prayer.

That no playeing be in the dark, nor continue any such time but as any of the auditorie may returne to their dwellings in London, before sonne set, or at least before it be dark.

That the Quenes players only be tolerated, and of them their number and certaine names to be notified in yo<sup>r</sup> ll<sup>ms</sup> lettres to the L. Maior and to the Iustices of Midd<sup>l</sup> and Surr'. And those her players not to diuide themselues into seuerall cōpanies.

That for breaking any of the orders, their toleration cesse /

[Endorsed.] Answer to y<sup>e</sup> Players Petition [There follow a few words in cypher.]



(3)

[Sir James Hawes was Lord Mayor in 1574-5; William Fleetwood, the Recorder, is the writer of Nos. V, VI, VIII, and IX above. Sir Thomas Offley, Sir Lionel Duckett, Sir William Allen, Ambrose Nicholas, William Bond, Francis Barnham, William Box, Richard Pipe, Nicholas Woodroffe, Edward Osborne, George Barnes, and Anthony Gamage were Aldermen.]

Cōie Consiliū tent vj<sup>to</sup>. die Decembr' anno Regiñ Elizabethe Dei gra' Anglie ffrūncie et hiñnie Regi<sup>e</sup> fidei defens' &c' xvij<sup>o</sup> coram egrigiis et spectabilibus Viris Iacobo Hawes maiore Civitatis Londoñ Wiffo fletwoodd armiger' Recordator' eiusdñ Civitatis. Offley Duckett Allyne milites Nicholas Bond Barnchñ Box Pipe Woodroffe, Osborne Barnes Gamage Vic' et iñense multitud' Cum &c'

Whearas hearetofore sondrye greate disorders and Inconvenyencp have benne found to ensewe to this Cittie by the inordynate hauntinge of greate multitudes of people speciallye youthe, to playes, enterludes, and shewes namelye occasyon of ffrayes and quarrelles, eavell practizes of incontineneye In greate Innes, havinge chambers and secrete places adioyninge to their open stagies and gallyries, inveglynge and allecuringe of maides speciallye orphanes, and good Cityzens Children vnder Age, to previe and vnmete Contractes, the publishinge of vnchaste vncomelye and vnshamefast speeches and doynge, w<sup>th</sup> drawinge of the Queenes Ma<sup>ties</sup>. Subiectes from dyvyne s<sup>v</sup>vice on Sonndaies and hollydayes, At w<sup>ch</sup> Tymes suche playes weare Chcfelye vsed vnthriftye waste of the moneye of the poore and fond psons sondrye robberies by pyckinge and Cuttinge of purses vtteringe of popular busye and sedycious matters, and manie other Corruptions of youthe and other enormities, besydes that allso soundrye slaughters and mayheminges of the Quenes Subiectes have happened by ruines of Skaffoldes fframes and Stagies, and by engynes weapons and powder used in plaies, And whear in

tyme of goddes visitaçon by the plaigue suche assemblies of the  
 people in thronge and presse have benne verye daungerous for  
 spreadinge of Infection, and for the same and other greate  
 Cawses by the Auctoritie of the honorable, ff, maiors of this  
 Cytte and thaldermen their Brethern and speciallye vppon the  
 severe and earneste Admonition of the, ff of the moste honorable  
 Councell w<sup>th</sup> signifyenge of her ma<sup>ties</sup>. expresse pleasure and  
 co<sup>m</sup>maundemente in that behalfe suche vse of playes Interludes  
 and shewes hathe benne duringe this tyme of syckenes forbydden  
 and restrayned / And for that the lorde Maior and his Bretheren  
 th'aldermen together w<sup>th</sup> the grave and discrete Citizens in the  
 Comen Councell assemblyd doo doughte and feare leaste vppon  
 Goddes mercyfull w<sup>th</sup>drawinge his hand of syckenes from vs  
 (w<sup>ch</sup> god graunte :) The people speciallye the meaner and moste  
 vnrewlye sorte sheould w<sup>th</sup> sodayne forgettinge of his visytaçon,  
 w<sup>th</sup>owte feare of goddes wrathe and w<sup>th</sup>owte deowe respecte of  
 this good and politike meanes that he hathe ordeyned for the  
 preservaçon of Co<sup>m</sup>en weales and peoples in healthe and good  
 order retourne to the vndewe vse of suche enormyties to the  
 greate offence of god, The Quenes ma<sup>ties</sup>. co<sup>m</sup>maudemē<sup>ts</sup> and good  
 gou<sup>n</sup>ñice / Nowe therfose to the intent that suche pilles maie be  
 avoyded and the lawefull honest and comelye vse of plaies pas-  
 tymes and recreaçons in good sorte onelye p<sup>m</sup>itted / And good  
 p<sup>v</sup>ision hadd for the saiftie and well orderynge of the people thear  
 assemblydd Be yt enacted by the Auctoritie of this Comen  
 Councell That fromhenceforth no playe Co<sup>m</sup>odye, Tragidy  
 enterlude nor publycke shewe shalbe openlye played or shewed  
 w<sup>th</sup>in the liberties of the Cittie, whearin shalbe vttered anie  
 wourdes examples or doynge of anie vnchastitie, sediçon nor  
 suche lyke vnfytt and vncomelye matter vppon paine of Im-  
 prisonment by the space of xiiij<sup>en</sup> daies of all p<sup>er</sup>sons offendinge  
 in anie suche open playenge or shewinges and v<sup>th</sup>. for eu<sup>er</sup>e suche  
 offence / And that no Inkep Tavernekep nor other p<sup>er</sup>son what-  
 soeu' w<sup>th</sup>in the lib<sup>er</sup>ties of thys Cittie shall openlye shewe or playe  
 nor cawse or suffer to be openlye shewed or played / w<sup>th</sup>in the  
 hous yarde or anie other place w<sup>th</sup>in the Liberties of this Cytte

anie playe enterlude Comodye, Tragidie, matter, or shewe w<sup>ch</sup> shall not be firste p<sup>r</sup>used and Allowed in suche order and fourme and by suche p<sup>r</sup>sons as by the Lorde Maior and Courte of Aldermen for the tyme beinge shalbe appoynted nor shall suffer to be enterlaced Added mynglydd or vttered in anie suche play enterlude Comodye Tragidie or shewe anie other matter then suche as shalbe firste p<sup>r</sup>used and allowed as ys abovesaid / And that no p<sup>r</sup>son shall suffer anie plays enterludes Comodyes, Tragidies or shewes to be played or shewed in his hous yarde or other place wheareof he then shall have rule or power but onelye suche p<sup>r</sup>sons and in suche places as apon good and reasonable considera<sup>r</sup>ons shewed shalbe thearvnto p<sup>r</sup>mitted and allowed by the lord maio<sup>r</sup> and Aldermen for the tyme beinge / Neither shall take or vse anie benifitt or Advantage of suche p<sup>r</sup>mission or Allowauncp before or vntill suche p<sup>r</sup>son be bound to the Chamblaine of London for the tyme beinge w<sup>th</sup> suche suerties and in suche Sūme and suche fourme for the keepinge of good order and avoydinge of the discordes and Inconvenyencp abovesaid as by the Lorde maior and Courte of Aldermen for the tyme beinge shall seme convenyent neither shall vse or execvte aine suche Lycence, or p<sup>r</sup>mission at or in anie tymes in w<sup>ch</sup> the same for anie reasonable considera<sup>r</sup>on of syckenes or otherwise shalbe by the Lorde Maior and Aldermen by publique p<sup>r</sup>clama<sup>r</sup>on or by p<sup>r</sup>cept to suche p<sup>r</sup>sons restrayned or Comaunded to staye and cease nor in anie vsuall tyme of dyvyne s<sup>r</sup>vce in the sonndaie or hollydaie nor receyve anie to that purpose in tyme of s<sup>r</sup>vce to se the same apon payne to forfeite for eu<sup>r</sup>e offence v<sup>th</sup> / And be y<sup>t</sup> enacted that eu<sup>r</sup>e p<sup>r</sup>son so to be lycensed or p<sup>r</sup>mitted shall duringe the tyme of suche Contynuaunce of suche lycens or p<sup>r</sup>mission paye or Cawse to be paid to the vse of the poore in hospitalles of the Cyttie or of the poore of the Cyttie visyted w<sup>th</sup> sycknes by the dyscretion of the said lorde maio<sup>r</sup> and Aldermen suche somes and Paymentes and in suche forme as betwen the lord Maior and Aldermen for the tyme beinge on thonne p<sup>r</sup>tie and suche p<sup>r</sup>son so to be lycensed or p<sup>r</sup>mitted on th<sup>r</sup>other partie shalbe Agreed apon payne that in waunte of eu<sup>r</sup>e suche pay-

mente, or if suche pson shall not firste be bound w<sup>th</sup> good suerties to the Chamblayne of London for the tyme beinge for the trewe payment of suche Sömes to the poore That then eu'ye suche lycence or pmission shalbe vtterlye voide and eu'ie doinge by force or Cullo<sup>r</sup> of suche lycence or pmission shalbe adiudged an offence against this Acte in suche manner as if no suche lycence or pmission hadd benne hadd, nor made anie suche lycence or pmission to the Contrarye Notw<sup>th</sup>standinge / And be yt lykewise Enacted that all Sömes and fforfeytures to be incurrydd for anie offence Against this Acte and all forfeytures of Bondes to be taken by force meane or occasyon of this Acte shalbe ymployed to the reliefe of the poore in the hospitalles of this Cittie or the poore infected or diseased in this Cittie of London as the lorde Maior and Courte of Aldermen for the tyme beinge shall adiudge meete to be distributed / And that the Chamblayne of London shall have and recover the same to the purpoizes aforesaid by Bill plainte Accon of dett or ynformacon to be Comenced and pursewed in his owne name in the Courte of the vtter Chamber of the Guildhall of London Called the Maior<sup>r</sup> Courte in w<sup>ch</sup> svte no Essoine nor Wager of Lawe for the defendaunte shalbe Admittyd<sup>r</sup> or allowed / Provydid allwaie that this Acte (otherwise then towchinge the publishinge of vnchaste sedycions and vnmete matters :) shall not extend to anie plaies En[ ] Comodies Tragidies or shewes to be played or shewed in the pryvate hous dwellinge or lodginge of anie nobleman Citizen or gentleman w<sup>ch</sup> shall or will then have the same thear so played or shewed in his presence for the festyvitie of anie marriage Assemblie of ffrendes or otherlyke cawse w<sup>th</sup>owte publique or Coñen Collection of money of the Auditorie or behoulders thearcof reservinge alwaie to the Lorde Maior and Aldermen for the tyme beinge the Iudgement and construction Accordinge to equitie what shalbe Counted suche a playenge or shewing in a pryvate place, anie thinge in this Acte to the Contrarie notw<sup>th</sup>standing /

[Endorsed twice over] London. For Plaies acte of coñon

counsel tempore hawes. / [In a much later hand is added: 'S<sup>r</sup> Jam. Hawes A<sup>o</sup> 1574']

[1. Cōie *sic* for Cōe *i.e.* Commune. tent *for* tent' *i.e.* tentum. 2. defens' *perhaps strictly* defenc'. 6. Vic' *i.e.* Vicecomites *or* Vicecomitibus, *aldermen?* 7. Cum *sic* for Coñ *i.e.* Communitatis? 42. deowe *i.e.* due. 52. fromhenceforthe *sic*. 122. Enterludes, *the paper is damaged.*]

# XI

[1588, January 16. Cast of comedy at Gray's Inn (*Lansdowne MS.* 55, f. 11, art. 4). Printed in Collier, *H. E. D. P.*, i. 260. Collier's text only indicates Burghley as present on this occasion, but it is clear that the Earl of Leicester, Lord Steward of the Household, the Earl of Ormonde, Lord Grey of Wilton and others were also present. Amongst the actors may be noted Thomas Campion, the poet, and Sir Peter Shackerly, who must, I suppose, be the 'Shakerley of Pauls', the references to whom are gathered by R. B. McKerrow, *Works of Thomas Nashe*, iv. 155. The Prince of Purpoole was the regular name of the Gray's Inn Lord of Misrule; cf. E. K. Chambers, *The Mediaeval Stage*, i. 417.]

## Domin de purpoole Hātcliff

|                                |   |                                 |
|--------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|
| The Prologue:                  | : | Ellis:                          |
| Hidaspis: 1 <sup>e</sup> sonn: | : | Campion:                        |
| Manili <sup>o</sup> madd:      | : | Anderton:                       |
| Prso:                          | : | Farnley:                        |
| Lucius:                        | : | Ashley:                         |
| Mummius <i>old man</i>         | : | Topham:                         |
| Byrria <i>parasite</i> :       | : | stauerton:                      |
| Flamantia <i>curtizan</i>      | : | Sandfort:                       |
| S <sup>r</sup> Delicato:       | : | S <sup>r</sup> Peter shackerly: |
| Catelyne:                      | : | Rhodes:                         |
| Clodius:                       | : | stanfort:                       |
| Salust:                        | : | Crwe:                           |
| Cato:                          | : | Hutton:                         |
| Crassus: } <i>Censors:</i>     | : | Williamson:                     |

|                             |              |
|-----------------------------|--------------|
| Scilla Dictator:            | : Montfort:  |
| Cinna: 1: consull:          | : Dauenport: |
| 2: Consull:                 | : starkey:   |
| Tribun <sup>o</sup> plebis: | : Smyth:     |
| Melancholy:                 | : Campion:   |
| Epilogue:                   | : Ellis:     |

## Masquers:

|           |           |
|-----------|-----------|
| Rhodes:   | Ross:     |
| Luttrell: | Peniston: |
| Champnes: | Daye:     |

[Endorsed] xvj. Ianr. 1587.

The Names of y<sup>e</sup> Iētillmē of Grays In y<sup>t</sup> playd ther a comedy  
before. y<sup>e</sup> L. burghly L. Tr.

Er. of lec. L. stuard

Er. of warr

Erl. of ormōd

L. Grey of wiltō

&c'

[The words printed in *italic* were added later by the original scribe but in a different ink.]

## XII

[1589, November 6. Sir John Harte, Lord Mayor, to Lord Burghley (*Lansdowne MS.* 60, f. 47, art. 19). Printed in Collier, *H. E. D. P.*, i. 265, and Hazlitt, *The English Drama and Stage*, 34. The bearing of this letter upon the relations between the Lord Admiral's (Lord Howard of Effingham's) men and those of Lord Strange has been examined by W. W. Greg, *Henslowe's Diary*, ii. 69.]

My very ho good L. Where by a lfe of yo<sup>r</sup> Lps directed to  
mr yonge it appered vnto me, that it was yo<sup>r</sup> ho pleasure I  
sholde geue order for the staie of all playes w<sup>th</sup>in the Cittie, in  
that m<sup>r</sup> Tilney did vtterly mislike the same. According to w<sup>ch</sup>

yo<sup>r</sup> L<sup>ps</sup> good pleasure, I p<sup>r</sup>sentlye sente for suche players as I coulde here of, so as there appered yesterday before me the L Admerall<sup>p</sup> and the L Straunges players, to whome I speciallie gaue in Charge and required them in her Ma<sup>ty</sup> name to forbere playinge, vntill further order mighte be geuen for their allowance in that respect: Whereupon the L Admerall<sup>p</sup> players very dutifullie obeyed, but the others in very Contemptuous manner departing from me, went to the Crosse keys and played that afternoon, to the greate offence of the better sorte that knewe they were prohibited by order from yo<sup>r</sup> L. W<sup>ch</sup> as I might not suffer, so I sent for the said Contemptuous persons, who haueing no reason to alleadge for their Contempt, I coulde do no lesse but this evening Comitt some of them to one of the Compters, and do meane according to yo<sup>r</sup> L<sup>ps</sup> direction to prohibite all playing vntill yo<sup>r</sup> L<sup>ps</sup> pleasure therein be further knowen. And thus resting further to trouble yo<sup>r</sup> L, I moste humblie take my leaue. At london the Sixte of Nouember 1589.

Yo<sup>r</sup> L<sup>ps</sup> moste humble

Iohn Harte maior

[Addressed] To the righte honorable my very good Lorde, the Lorde highe Tresaurer of Englande. [Sealed with the City arms.]

[Endorsed] vj<sup>to</sup> Novemb<sup>r</sup> 1589 L Maior of London to my L. He hath prohibiting all playing in London of stage plays. He hath committed 2 of y<sup>e</sup> L. stranges players, for playing contrary to his inhibicion /

[Endm<sup>t</sup>. hath prohibiting sic.]

### XIII

[1590 (?), January (the last figure of the date in (3) may be either 0, 7, or 9 : the official pencil endorsement is 1590). Challenges to a Tourney on Candlemas (*Lansdowne MS.* 99, f. 259, arts. 96-8). Nothing further is known of such a tourney, but the name Callophissus was taken by Philip Howard, Earl of Arundel, in a challenge 'signified by waie of deuise before hir maiestie' on January 6, 1581,

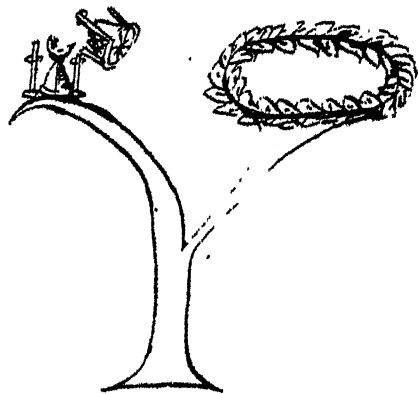
to be fought on January 15 and ultimately fought at Westminster on January 22 (Holinshed, *Chronicles*, ed. 2, iii. 1315; Nichols, *Progresses of Elizabeth*, iii. 334, from W. Segar, *Honor, Military and Civill*, 1602. It seems on the whole probable that, in spite of certain discrepancies, the present documents refer to the occasion thus recorded, but it seems impossible to decide with certainty. The facsimile reproduces the verso of fol. 259, showing the emblem borne by the Blue Knight.]

## (1)

It is true that men as they are diuers so haue theie humors & fansies differinge one from another, out of which theie do Iudg dyverslie of one and the same thinge as maie appeare amonge other thingp by the taking of a challendg lately proclaymed by one Callophisus in the honor of a ladie whoe for hir rare and perfect giftp deserueth farre more praise then he or tonge of man can geue hir. And to the shewe of his faith and dutiefull affection for w<sup>ch</sup> he deserueth asmuch as man maye challendg, which his good mynd some one sturred rather to envie then to followe hath to deprauie him of his dewe desert vnder the name of the White Knight as disorderlie challenged a challenndger, his Challendg dependig as without desert wold arrogate to himself a note of greater loialtie, where in troth he cometh as farre behind and can Compare noe more w<sup>th</sup> him, then the wolf with the faithfull spaniell or as the rammedge buzard with the pilgrime falcon. In this quarrell I the blewe knight doe proffer and desire to trye my self against him or anie his ffreende or assistante, at the Course of the feild and Tourney on Chandelmas daie next by two of the Clock in the afternone before the gates of hir Courte that by remembraunc of hir name onelie sturreth vpp all desires to vertue and by the perfeccons of hir bewtie and good graces subdueth the stoutest hart of hir beholders. The Condiçons and ordre I proffer to be as followeth. ffirst my self to Come armed at all pointp, and my horse furnished as to the feld. with me I will bring my patrone with a pledge of a Iewell worth an hundred poundes. The like I require of myne aunswerer to the end that whoso hurteth horse with point



the one of his persons I will surely bring in two swords -  
 myself my inspector shall make his choice, the like liberties  
 shall be given respecting the choice to me, the offer for my self  
 will be not able to convey at the passage or ignoring at either  
 of red left without stage or let by advantage or misfortune  
 of either but at the pleasure of him that sets the advantage.  
 In person it is brought to that advantage by either that the  
 other is in manifest danger and want of honorable means of  
 defense it shall be lawful then for the patron to take by  
 the matter, and to deliver to the victor the pledge respecting  
 some Lady in, with it is to present to restore the frank  
 left mortgage. About this if the inspector left to do a line  
 step down to the person he makes his inspectors not must  
 be within four days. His down to shall be accepted whatever  
 man is to my honor offered. And lastly because I will not  
 go back from what I have promised you. I am known to among  
 the gentlemen in the inspecting of this next attempt by  
 his power ever following.



The Bene. Knight



of speare or sword shall lose the honor and his pledge. Secondlie I will bring in iiij staves such as I list whereof my aunswerer shall make Choice of twoo and leave the other to my self. The like libertie and for the like number I geve to him whoe shall leave the first Choist of twoo to me the other to himself; which staves beinge broken or the one of vs vnhorsed I will thirdlie bringe in twoe swordes whereof my aunswerer shall make his Choice, the like libertie shall he haue reserving the Choice to me, the other for my self, with theise we are to tourney at the passage or ioyning as either of vs list without staye or let by advauntag or misfortune of either but at the pleasure of him that hath the advauntage. And when it is brought to that advauntage by either that the other is in manifest daunger and wanteth honorable meanes of defence it shall be lawefull then for the patrons to take vp the matter, and to delyver to the victour the pledg which either have layde in, w<sup>ch</sup> he is to present to whome he thinketh best worthie. ffourthlie if the aunswerer list to adde anie other Condiçions to theise when he maketh his aunswere w<sup>ch</sup> must be within foure daies, his Condiçions shall be accepted whatsoever maie be with honor offred. And lastlie because I will not goe back from what I haue proffred yowe shall knowe me among the defendaunt<sup>p</sup> in the aunswering of this next Challendg this fygure heare followinge.

[Emblem]

The Blewe Knight.

[Endorsed] The blewe Knight.

[32. Choist sic.]

(2)

Callophissus as it semes more couetous of glorie then hable to merite hath putt his challenge to the print, but not his vertue to the proof, yet to shadowe his imperfecçon he hath couered himself vnder the winges of the most perfectest, for whome eche

would aduenture : but against whome none will lift his lance. But wheareas he vauntes himself to hono<sup>r</sup> hir aboue all, to loue more, and serve more then anie besides, this is as farre beyond his compasse, as the white knight is aboue him in zeale and worthines, whoe albeit to me he be vnknownen, I praise his attempt wishing he had chosen a fitter daie, whearcin he might haue had full meanes to haue tought Collophisus his fault, and the worthiest wight haue shewed his desire to hono<sup>r</sup> hir whome he serveth in loyaltie. wherefore as a frend to his mind and anie others that in hono<sup>r</sup> of that rare m<sup>rs</sup> which is accomplished w<sup>th</sup> vertue perfeccon and euerie good qualetie w<sup>ch</sup> maie enrich a mortall creature with immortal praise, being of none other to be spoken or vnderstood but of hir self, I meane to trie my truth with no lesse valure then I haue desire not minding to disorder so noble a presencc, but rather to enterteine the same with a longer aboade by diuersity & change of armes, and to ioinc with this worthie white knight, if the next daie maie be giuen to the sword, as the former chalenge is to the lance : not wandering from the rules of armes, neither wronging the rest of the defendantes of which it is to be thought manie will make proof of their loyalties, as pleisure to their ladie. And as for Collophisus I knowe not whether the Redd knight having added a little to his chalenge, hath not taken awaie a great part of his hono<sup>r</sup>. But wheareas either of them seme absolute prefferrers of themselues before all others in loyaltie, loue, and worthines, I must saie and doe avowe, I am of a farre contrarie opinion, and thinke either of them to be as vnfitt to vsurpe the title of hir servantes, as she is worthie to be m<sup>rs</sup> of the world, as voide of loyaltie, merite, valure and love, as she is complete with wisdom grace beautie and eloquence, there workes be as farre lesse then there wordp, as there praise is short of hir worth. And in this am I to assist the white knight vnknownen to mee against the read knight in all pointes of armes that either the place will suffer, time permitt, or Cumpanie allowe, and for the rest of his bragging wordp they maie supplie the want of his workes, theie nothing apperteine to mee whoe presume nothing.

of myself in respect of mine assurance in my m<sup>rs</sup> vertue, and excellencie vppon whose face theire eies are vnworthie to looke.

The Knight of the tree of the  
Sonne Affronter to the redd.

[Endorsed] The knight of y<sup>e</sup> tree of y<sup>e</sup> Sonne.

(3)

To Callophisus whosoever or wheresoeuer.

Callophisus; think it not straunge to find diuers in this or Court or at the least some one amonge so manie that makes profession of armes that both dares and will oppose himself against so proud a Chalendg as of late vnder the title of thy name hath bene proclaymed. Vnto vs is Collophisus a mere straunger and his mistres likewise whose name he hath Concealed altogether vnknowne and therefore doe we neither esteme that excellencye as due w<sup>ch</sup> to hir he doth attribute nor allowe that merite and worthines which to himself he doth arrogate. Of knightp haue we greate store whoe both of theire loialtie and prowesse haue made to good prooffe to admire a stranger of whome we haue had noe triall and ladies likewise of such rare vertue and excellent beautie doe we serue as that we highlie disdaine to worship an vnknowne saint. Receiue therefore from me the White Knight by name this aunswere that at the tilt tourney and barriers if thoue be so disposed I will encounter the to the vtturmost and there make good vpon thy person that my soueraigne mistres that royall virgine that peereles Princp that Phenix and Paragon of the world whome with all deuocō I doe serue loue honor and obey in all perfecōs as farre surpasseth the Concealed ladie as the Clerest daie doth the darkest night or the fairest flower the fowlest weede. But if so be that with better advice to thy greater aduantage thoue wilt wrest and applie thy late Chalendg to the honor and seruice of this my souereigne then doe I in this sort Conclude that in noe

respect I am to geue the place either for merite or loialtie knowinge none able to Clayme desert at hir handes but those onely to whome she vouchesaffeth to impute such grace and fauoure. And therefore both to iustifie such my sayeing and vtterlie to disproue that w<sup>ch</sup> to thy self thoue doest peculiarie chalenge I am in like sort to maintaine with a hundreth staves at thy assigned daye that neither thoue nor all the world besides is worth one kisse of hir hand. Subscribed by him whoe in armes wilbe readie to avouche that which his penne hath here written / this xv<sup>th</sup> of Ianuary 1589

Thy aduersarye the  
White Knight.

[36. 1589 last figure doubtful.]

(4)

The aunswere to the white knight.

Whereas Callophismus hath made an honorable chalendg and some other (perhaps not well experimented in armes) hath made a disorderly answere vnto it, beinge as yet not Come to the cares of Callophismus: And I being a professed frend vnto him, Be it knowne vnto the (thowe white knight) whatsoever thoue art, that I the redd knight will aunswere and iustifie vppon the all that Callophismus hath proclaymed, at the daie appointed from the rising of the sonne vnto the goeing downe thereof, at the three challendges, and the Course of the field withall w<sup>ch</sup> thoue hast forgotten. And that as neither thie self; nor any other in respect of hir roiall and matchlesse excellencie, is worthie either to beare the name of hir servannt, or to kisse the ground of hir steppes whome both I and Callophismus, honor more then thoue doest and serue better then thoue canst, and not onely obey in all degrees, as much as is possible for thy self but also be readie to performe that for hir sake to shewe that we professe, that thoue art not able (thought thoue hadst thy will) to dischargd. So in respect of thine owne vnworthines I will iustifye Callophismus and my self to be so farre aboue the for

merite and loyaltie as thoue shalt feele the reward of a wrong quarrell if thoue wilt pforme what thoue hast offred And as thoue canst not speake so much in the Commendacon of theise worthie knightp w<sup>ch</sup> this land possesseth as both he and I will acknowledge and confesse to be true, so doth both he and I think the inferiour to them all. This I haue vndertaken to aunswere, because Callophisus must be better occupied in discharging of that w<sup>ch</sup> he hath most honorablie vndertaken, and to the pformaunce whereof he is in honor bound. And therefore as either thoue regardest thy Creditt or desirest to wyne honore, faile not the pformaunce of thy offer.

Thy adversarie the

Red Knight.

[Endorsed] The white knight to Callophisus.

The red knights aunswere to the white knight.

[5. cares *sic* for eares ?

18. thought *sic* for though.]

## XIV

[1592, June 12. Sir William Webbe, Lord Mayor, to Lord Burghley *Lansdowne MS.* 71, f. 28, art. 15). A letter-book copy, from *Remembrancia*, i. 662, is printed in the *Collections*, i. 70. It is misdated 'May 30' and contains several variations from the present text which are recorded in the notes below.]

My humble duety remembred to yo<sup>r</sup> good L. Beeing informed of a great disorder, & tumult lyke to grow yesternight abowt viij of the clock w<sup>th</sup>in the Borough of Southwark, I went thither w<sup>th</sup> all speed I could taking w<sup>th</sup> mee on of the Sherifes, whear I found great multitudes of people assembled together, & the principall actours to bee certain servants of the ffeltmakers gathered together out of Barnsey street & the Black fryers, w<sup>th</sup> a great number of lose, & maisterles men apt for such pourposes. Whcarupon having made proclamation, & dismissed the multitude, I appre-

hended the chief doers, and authors of the disorder, & have cōmitted them to prison to bee farther punished, as they shall bee found to deserve. And having this morning sent for the Deputie & Constable of the Borough w<sup>th</sup> Divers other of best credit, who wear thear present, to examine the cause, & manner of the disorder, I found that it began vpon the serving of a warrant from my L. Chamberlain by on of the Knight Mareschalls men, vpon a feltmakers servant, who was cōmitted to y<sup>e</sup> Mareschallsea w<sup>th</sup> certain others, y<sup>t</sup> were accused to his L. by the sayed Knight Mareschalls men w<sup>th</sup>out cause of offence, as them selves doe affirm. ffor rescuing of whome y<sup>e</sup> sayed companies assembled themselves by occasion, & pretence of their meeting at a play, w<sup>ch</sup> bysides the breach of y<sup>e</sup> Sabboth day giveth opportunitie of cōmitting these & such lyke disorders. The principall doers in this rude tumult I mean to punish to the example of others. Whearin also it may please y<sup>r</sup> L. to give mee yo<sup>r</sup> direction, if you shall advise vpon anything meet to bee doon for the farther punishm<sup>t</sup> of the sayed offenders. Hearof I thought good to advertise y<sup>r</sup> L. (w<sup>ch</sup> I am informed by y<sup>e</sup> inhabitants of Southwark men of best reputaçon among them) that the Knight Mareschalls men in the serving of their warrants, do not vse themselves w<sup>th</sup> that good discretion & moderate vsage, as wear meet to bee doon in lyke cases, but after a most rough & violent manner, provoking men by such hard dealings to contend w<sup>th</sup> them, w<sup>ch</sup> would otherwise obey in all duetifull sort. As I vnderstand they did in this case, when they entred the house, whear the warrant was to bee served w<sup>th</sup> a dagger drawen affreyting the goodwyfe who satt by the fire w<sup>th</sup> a young infant in hir armes, and afterwards having taken the prisoners, & cōmitted them to the Mareschalsea (wheare they lay 5. dayes w<sup>th</sup>out making their answer) these mutinous persons assembling themselves in this disordered manner the Knight Mareschalls men being w<sup>th</sup>in the Mareschalsea, issued foorth w<sup>th</sup> their daggers drawen, & bastianadoes in their hands beating the people (wheare of soom passed that way by chance, soom cam but to gaze, as the manner is) and afterwards drew their swords. Whearby the



tumult was more incensed, & themselves endangered, but y<sup>t</sup> help cam to prevent farther mischief. The sayed inhabitants of Southwark do farther complain that the sayed Knight Marschalls men beehave themselves very vnneighbourly, and disdaynfully among them, refusing to pay scot or lot w<sup>th</sup> them, or any other dueties to Church, or cōmon wealth, w<sup>ch</sup> maketh the inhabitants the more to dislyke them. Thus much I thought good to signifie to yo<sup>r</sup> L. that (if your H thinck good) they may bee admonished of their beehaviour, & to vse more discretion in serving their warrants : for that such tumults beeing once rayzed by disordered multitudes, ar rather to bee quenched & suppressed by policie for the present time, then farther to bee kindled by such violent means. And thus I cōmit yo<sup>r</sup> good L. to the grace of the Almightye. ffrom London the 12<sup>th</sup> of Iune. 1592.

Yo<sup>r</sup> L. most humble.

Wyllyam Webbe maio<sup>r</sup>

[Addressed] To the right honourable my very good L. the L. high Treasurer of England.

[Endorsed] 12 Iany 1592 L. Maio<sup>r</sup> of London to my L:  
A great disorder committed in Southwarke by the feltmakers servannts in Barmsey Strete  
The Mareschalls men vndiscrete and violent in execution of their warrants.

[6. certain apprentices of R. 7. Barnsey *sic*. Barnsey R. 10. chief  
*omit* R. 12-13. the Constable of the Borough & the Deputie w<sup>th</sup> R.  
16. Knights R. 17. feltmongers R. 18. other R. 20. ffor  
restraining of whome R. 20-1. sayed apprentices & maisterles men assem-  
bled R. 27-8. thought meet to R. 30. in their serving R. 33.  
provoking them by R. dealing R. 34. otherwise would R. 35. case  
whear they R. 38-9. taken the party and certain others and cōmitted them  
to prison whear R. 40-1. these mutiners apprentices assembled them selves R.  
41. the sayed Marescharills R. 43. & w<sup>th</sup> Bastianadoes R. 44. soom  
cam that R. 45. manner is, & afterwards allso drew R. 46. was  
rather incensed R. 47. mischiefes R. 48. of Southwark *omit* R.  
Knight *omit* R. 52-3. inhabitants more discontent w<sup>th</sup> them. w<sup>th</sup> I thought  
meet to R. 53: y<sup>r</sup> L. thinck R. 54. of such their R. 58. such  
*omit* R. good *omit* R. 59. the 30<sup>th</sup> of May 1592 R.]

## XV

[1592, September 18. (1) The Vice-Chancellor and Heads of Houses at Cambridge to Lord Burghley, Chancellor of the University (*Lansdowne MS.* 75, f. 16, art. 8), conveying (2) a Supplication of the Same to the Privy Council (*Lansdowne MS.* 71, f. 203, art. 83) and copies of (3) a Letter of October 30, 1575, from the Privy Council to the Vice-Chancellor and (4) a Warrant of September 1, 1592, from the Vice-Chancellor and other Justices of the Peace to the Constables of Chesterton (*Lansdowne MS.* 71, ff. 200<sup>b</sup>, 201, art. 82<sup>3</sup> 4). Printed in C. H. Cooper, *Annals of Cambridge*, ii. 339, 515. Collier, *H. E. D. P.*, i. 280, describes the documents, but confuses the transaction by misdating (1) on September 8. Copies of the Charters of Henry III and Elizabeth were also enclosed, and form *Lansdowne MS.* 71, art. 82<sup>b</sup> 2. A brief note of the issue of (3) is in Dasent, *Acts of the Privy Council*, ix. 39. It appears from No. XVII, which continues the correspondence, that the present communications were sent to Burghley and the Council at Oxford during Elizabeth's visit to that University, which lasted from September 22 to 28. The Vice-Chancellor, Robert Some, was Master of Peterhouse; of the other signatories, Thomas Byng was Master of Clare Hall and Regius Professor of Civil Law, Thomas Legge Master of Gonville and Caius and author of *Riuardus Tertius*, Thomas Preston Master of Trinity Hall and author of *Cumbylises*, Roger Goade Provost of King's, Thomas Neville Master of Magdalene, and Laurence Chaderton Master of Emanuel. Roger, 2nd Lord North of Kirtling, was High Steward of the town of Cambridge, and a powerful neighbour of the University, with whom he had already had quarrels in 1580 and 1591. The Cambridge Borough accounts for 1591-2 show payments both to the Queen's men and to Lord Strange's. The player Dutton may have been either Laurence or John Dutton, both of whom were members of the Queen's men in 1591. Their earlier history is summarised in *Modern Language Review*, ii. 5. This was the second time that they had been in conflict with the University. In 1580 they were the Earl of Oxford's men, and a similar protest against their performances was sent to Burghley by John Hatcher, the then Vice-Chancellor, in a letter printed from *S. P. Dom. Eliz.*, cxxxix. 26, in C. P. Cooper, *op. cit.*, ii. 379, and H. Ellis, *Original Letters illustrative of English History*, i. 3. 32.]

## (1)

Ou<sup>r</sup> most humble duties remembred to you<sup>r</sup> Honorable good Lordship; May it please the same to be advertised, That by reason of the rifenes of the plague and agewes in diuerse parts of this land, wee thoughte it apperteyninge to ou<sup>r</sup> duties to be the more carefull of late to forbid such vnnecessary meetings

neare Sturbridge faire, as might either breede or disperse that infeccon: To that end wee sent A warrant (grownded vpon the lres of the LL:<sup>s</sup> of her Maiesties most Hono: priuy Cownsell) to inhibite certaine Players, who wear purposed (as wee heard) to playe at Chesterton. How slightly that warrant was regarded as well by the Constables and thinhabitunts of Chesterton as by the Players them selues (whereof one Dutton is A principale) appeared by their bills sett vp vpon ou<sup>r</sup> Colledge gates, and by their playeinge in Chesterton, notw<sup>th</sup>standinge ou<sup>r</sup> said warrant to the contrary. One of the Constables toulde vs that he heard the Players saye that they were licensed by the Lo: Northe to playe in Chesterton. Wee cānot chardge his Lo:<sup>p</sup> otherwise w<sup>th</sup> that pticuler: But wee are able to iustify that the Lo: Northe vpon like occasion heretofore, beinge made acquainted w<sup>th</sup> the said Lres of the LL:<sup>s</sup> of the Cownsell, retorned aunswere in writinge, that those lres weare no perpetuity: And likewise also in this very accon when the Players came to him for his Lo:<sup>s</sup> allowūnce for their playeinge in Chesterton, and some of vs did then tell his Lo:<sup>p</sup> that wee had the LL:<sup>s</sup> of the Cownsell's lres to the contrary, he openly vttered in the heareinge as well of the Players, as of diu'se Knight<sup>h</sup> and Gentlemen of the Shier then present, that the date of those lres was almost expired, And he said then further to the Players, that although they should playe at Chesterton, yet the vicechūncello<sup>r</sup> durst not cōmitt them therefore. How well such speaches sound, and what they may worcke in the heades of rude multitudes, wee leaue to you<sup>r</sup> Hono: wisdom to consider; but dutie would not suffer vs to conceale the same from you<sup>r</sup> Lo:<sup>s</sup> knowledge. for the rest may it please you<sup>r</sup> Lo:<sup>p</sup> to be referred to ou<sup>r</sup> supplicacon, to be offered vpon yo<sup>r</sup> Lo:<sup>s</sup> good likeinge, to the LL:<sup>s</sup> of the Cownsell, and to some brecfes of ou<sup>r</sup> Charters, and the copy of those Hono: lres, All which shalbe p'sented to yo<sup>r</sup> Lo:<sup>p</sup> by ou<sup>r</sup> Vniu'sity Messengers. That w<sup>ch</sup> wee chiefly desier, and very humblie craue (the correccon of the contempte reserued to you<sup>r</sup> good Lo:<sup>s</sup> owne Hono: wisdom) is that for the better defence of ou<sup>r</sup> auncient Charters, you<sup>r</sup> Lo:<sup>p</sup> would be pleased to procure

that those yo<sup>r</sup> former Hono: l<sup>res</sup> by yo<sup>r</sup> good Lo:<sup>p</sup> and the rest of the LL:<sup>s</sup> of her Maiesties most Hono: pryvy Cownsell may be renewed. Wherby the rather the greate disorders of Chesterton (w<sup>ch</sup> Towne hath and doth continually annoy ou<sup>r</sup> Vniu'sity) may be mett w<sup>th</sup>all and many occasions of stirs and daungers may be prevented. Thus w<sup>th</sup> ou<sup>r</sup> harty prayers vnto god for the longe and happy preservacon of you<sup>r</sup> Lo:<sup>p</sup>'s healthe and Ho: wee do most humbly take ou<sup>r</sup> leaues. from Cambridge the xvij<sup>th</sup> of September. 1592

|  |                      |
|--|----------------------|
| You <sup>r</sup> Honorable good Lo: <sup>p</sup> alwaies to be cōmaunded |                      |
| Tho <sup>r</sup> Byng <sup>r</sup>                                       | R. Some, procancell: |
| Thomas Legge   | Roger Goade:         |
| Thomas Preston   | Thomas Nevile.       |
| Laur: Chaderton  |                      |

[Addressed] To the righte Honorable and ou<sup>r</sup> singuler good Lord the Lord Burghley, Lo: highe Treasurer of England Chūncello<sup>r</sup> of the Vniuersity of Cambridge.

[Endorsed] 18. Sept 1592.

Vicechancellor & Heades of y<sup>e</sup> Howses in Cambridge to my l. Desires their LL:s letters for Staye of Playes at Chesterton.

(2)

To the righte Honorable ou<sup>r</sup> speciall good Lords the LL:<sup>s</sup> of her Maiesties most Hono: priuie Counsell.

In most humble ma<sup>n</sup>er shewen vnto you<sup>r</sup> Honorable good Lordships, you<sup>r</sup> daylie Orato<sup>r</sup> the Vicechūncello<sup>r</sup> of the Vniu'sitie of Cambridge, and the rest of the Headd<sup>p</sup> of Colleges theare: That whereas aboute seauentene yeares since informacon was giuen vnto you<sup>r</sup> LL:<sup>p</sup>'s touchinge the misdemeano<sup>r</sup> of diuers badd psons, w<sup>ch</sup> wandringe aboute the Countrey vnder the colour of licenses for the makeinge of shewes, and playcinge of Enterludes, and settinge furth of other vaine games and

pastimes, did thereby allure very manie of ou<sup>r</sup> Scholers from the good course of theire studies and vsual exercises for the increase of learninge; vpon w<sup>ch</sup> informaçon it pleased your good LL:<sup>ps</sup> to addresse vnto the Vicechüncello<sup>r</sup> and Headdp of the said Vniu'setie your Hono: l<sup>res</sup>, thereby fullie auctorisinge and streictlie chargeinge them and other Iustices of peace w<sup>th</sup>in fyue myles of Cambridge, to repressse such disorders, and not to suffer them to be put in vre w<sup>th</sup>in that precinct (agreably to an aũcient Charter grũted vnto vs by that noble Prince Kinge Henry the third, forbiddinge to be vsed heere amongst vs other games of like nature) throughe w<sup>ch</sup> yo<sup>r</sup> LL:<sup>ps</sup> Honorable coũaundement not only ou<sup>r</sup> younger sort of Studentp weare the better ordered, But also the whole Vniu'sitie the les troubled for manie yeares after: Yet so it is (yf it may please yo<sup>r</sup> good LL:<sup>ps</sup>) that now of late some evill disposed psons, encouraged (as it may seeme) by such, as carie no greate good affection to the increase of learninge, or the peaceable governement of this societie, Notw<sup>th</sup>standinge they have been made acquainted w<sup>th</sup> the forsaid order by yo<sup>r</sup> LL:<sup>ps</sup> taken in that behalfe, haue neu'theles p'sumed, some sliely and by stealthe, some boldlie and openly, to crosse the true meaninge of that yo<sup>r</sup> Hono: coũaundement. In so much as at this time of Sturbridge faire (greate numbers of people resortinge hither from all partp of the Realme) certaine lighte psons pretendinge them selues to be her Ma<sup>ties</sup> Plaiers, albeit the Vicechüncello<sup>r</sup>, by auctoritie of yo<sup>r</sup> LL:<sup>ps</sup> said l<sup>res</sup>, vtterlie forbadd them to make shewe of theire exercises w<sup>th</sup>in this Vniu'sities precinctp, did notw<sup>th</sup>standinge take the boldnes not only heere to proclaime theire Enterludes (by settinge vp of writinge about ou<sup>r</sup> College gatp) but also actually at Chesterton to play the same; w<sup>ch</sup> is A village w<sup>th</sup>in the Compasse of the Iurisdicçon grũted to vs by her Maiesties Charter and situated hard by the plott wheare Sturbridge faire is kept. What perill of sicknes will hereof ensue by the throngeinge together of Companies in this contagious time, the Lord knoweth; But this is specially to be feared, that as that Towne hath at other times heretofore cheifelie endeavored, and yet daylie procedeth by

theire Bearbaytings and Bulbaytings and such like vaine games, to hinder the quiet of the Vniu'sitie, and to drawe ou<sup>r</sup> Studentp from theire bookes: So this theire manifest and open contempt in disobeyinge the expresse comaundement of the Magistrate, will growe hereafter to some singuler inconvenience, yf speedy remedie be not provided therefore; for (yf it may please yo<sup>r</sup> good LL:<sup>ps</sup>) not only the Plaiers them selues weare (by vertue of yo<sup>r</sup> LL:<sup>ps</sup> said L<sup>r</sup>es) flatly inhibited to play theire Enterludep w<sup>th</sup>in fyue myles compasse of this Towne: But also streict chardge was giuen to the Constable of Chesterton, both by word of mowth and by precept in writinge subscribed by the Vicechūncello<sup>r</sup> and other Iustices of the peace, aswell to w<sup>th</sup>stand the parties yf they should theare attempt to sett furthe theire plaies, as also to warne the Inhabitūtp not to giue them enterテインment for the same. And yet hath all this been so slendarlie executed, or rather so wholie neglected, as thoughe they had of purpose resolued to do the contrarie. Wherefore wee are most humblie to craue of yo<sup>r</sup> good LL:<sup>ps</sup>, that yo<sup>a</sup> would be pleased to cause to be called before you<sup>r</sup> Hono<sup>r</sup> aswell the said Plaiers and the Constable, as also the partie in whose house the Enterludes weare plaied; that by due examinaçon of all psons yo<sup>r</sup> LL:<sup>ps</sup> may knowe the māner of theire offense, and so to correct the same as to yo<sup>r</sup> Hono: wysdomes shall seeme convenient. Thus prayeinge the Allmightie so to guide yo<sup>r</sup> good LL:<sup>ps</sup> w<sup>th</sup> his holie spirit as may be most to his Hono<sup>r</sup> and glory, and the vniu'sall benefitt of this Realme, wee humblie take ou<sup>r</sup> leaue. from Cambridge the xvij<sup>th</sup> of September. 1592.

You<sup>r</sup> good Lordships dayly Orato<sup>r</sup> the Vicechūncello<sup>r</sup> of the Vniu'sity of Cambridge and other the Heads of Colleges theare.

Tho: Byng.  
Thomas Legge  
Thomas Preston

R. Some, procancell:  
Roger Goade:  
Thomas Nevile  
Laur: Chaderton.

[Endorsed] 1592. The humble supplicaçon of the Vicechũncello<sup>r</sup> and others the Governo<sup>r</sup> of Colledges w<sup>th</sup>in the Vniuersity of Cambridge. [Another hand has added] Concerning Interludes.

(3)

A copy of a letter from the Lordes of her Ma<sup>ties</sup> most Honorable pryvy Counsell vnto the Vicechũncello<sup>r</sup> of the Vniu'sity of Cambridge.

After ou<sup>r</sup> very harty coñmendaçons. Consideringe that the Vniu'sities of this realme, whereof in the whole, there are but two, haue at the first bene instituted principally for the nurture and educaçon of A multitude of youthe in good mañers, learneinge and xpianity, and likewise for the mainteĩnce and sustentaçon of such as should there teache all liberall sciences, and exercise the studye and profession of dyvynity: and for that purpose besides the great and auncient pryvileges grũted vnto both the said Vniu'sities for their comforte. It is requisite that all other good meanes be vsed to p'serve them in peace and quietnes, and to kepe them free from all vnlawfull assemblies, tendinge to ryotp and rowtp, and from other disordered lighte attemptp, that mighte disturbe or w<sup>th</sup>drawe the Studentp from their learneinge, studies and profession, or that mighte bringe infection of popular diseases to the same: Wee beinge informed very credibly of some attemptp of light and decayed p'sons, who for filthy lucre are mynded, and do seke now Adaies to devise, and sett vp in open places shewes of vnlawfull, hurtfull, pnicious, and vn honest games neere to that Vniu'sity of Cambridge, do consider that it cañot be, but A greate number of the youthe, and others of the same, may be thereby intyced from their ordinary places of learneinge, to be behoulders, learners, and practisers of lewdnes and vnlawfull actp: And that also (w<sup>ch</sup> in this speciall time of so generall an infection of the plague is to be regarded) that thereby great Assemblies of vulgar people should be made, whereby the infecçon of the plague mighte be broughte to the Vniu'sitye, as lately it was very grevouslye, and so continued by disorder to A greater decaye of

that Vniu'sitye, thoughe now by gods goodnes, w<sup>th</sup> some good order of the rulers there ceased: Therefore wee to whome amongste other publike affaires of this estate to vs by her most excellent maiesty comitted, cañot but cownte this also to belonge to ou<sup>r</sup> chardge to wishe, devise, and procure all meanes of good succeſſe, increase of learneinge, and prosperity to the Vniu'sities: and to w<sup>th</sup>stand all troubles, disorders, and decaies thereof: do will and charge yo<sup>n</sup> the Vicechũncello<sup>r</sup>, and w<sup>th</sup> yo<sup>n</sup> all others aswell of the Vniu'sity, as of the Towne, or of the Coũtrei w<sup>th</sup>in fyue myles circuite, that are ether by her Ma<sup>ties</sup> Coñmission or by Charter Iustices of peace, to haue good regard, that in no wise there be from henceforthe any open shewes made or suffered by colo<sup>r</sup> of any licenses of Iustices or others to procure assemblies wherein any māner of vnlawfull games shalbe exercised, neither yet any assemblies in open places of multitudes of people be suffered to be made w<sup>th</sup>in that Vniu'sity and Towne, or w<sup>th</sup>in fyue miles compasse, but such as by the lawes of the Realme are vsuall, as for preachinges and exercises of learninge, or for faires & marketp, or for administraçon of lawes, and execuçon of Iustice, or such like, beinge for priuate exercises of the youthes meete and vsuall for theire recreaçon. And this ou<sup>r</sup> l<sup>re</sup>, and the whole contentp thereof wee will yo<sup>n</sup> the Vicechũncello<sup>r</sup> spedylie to coñmunicate w<sup>th</sup> the Maior of that towne of Cambridge, and his Bretherne, and w<sup>th</sup>all other beinge Iustices of peace, and dwellinge w<sup>th</sup>in fyue myles of that Vniu'sity, whome all both generally and p<sup>t</sup>iculerlye, by theis ou<sup>r</sup> l<sup>res</sup> beinge reade vnto them, wee will and require, and in her Maiesties name do chardge and comaunde to consulte, accord, and agree, in one good minde to the due obseruaçon hereof acordinge to ou<sup>r</sup> good meaneinge, and not to omitt any other good ciuile and charitable order for p<sup>s</sup>eruaçon of the vniu'sity and towne from daunger of infecçon of the plague, or at the leaste yf any should happen, yet then by some foresighte to provide to stay the same from increaseinge and spreddinge abroade, to the further decaye of learninge, dissoluçon of studye, and to the kepeinge backe or dryveinge awaye of suche as otherwise should come thither to be taughte,



and broughte vp in good and godly leareninge And so wee hope yo<sup>a</sup>, and all the rest of the Iustyces of peace will not only vpon this ou<sup>r</sup> zealous admoniçon and exprest chardge; but vpon yo<sup>r</sup> owne wise consideraçons of the importance hereof, be carefull vigilant, and as cases shall require straite and severe in the observaçon of the p<sup>r</sup>misses. And so wee bidd yo<sup>a</sup> hartely farewell. from Windsore the xxx<sup>th</sup> of October. 1575.

You<sup>r</sup> loving frends

W: Burghlye: T: Sussex. ff: Bedford. R: Leycester.  
ff. knollis. Iamys Crofte. T: Smithe. ffra: Walsingh<sup>m</sup>.

(4)

A copy of A warrant from the Vicechũncellor of Cambridge, M<sup>r</sup> D<sup>r</sup> Binge and M<sup>r</sup> Edward Ellis beinge all in Comission of the peace, sent to Oliuer Reeue and Rychard Cobb Constables of the Towne of Chesterton w<sup>th</sup>in the County of Cambridge and to either of them.

Whereas there be certaine psons lately repayred vnto the Vniu'sity and Towne of Cambridge havinge in purpose ether there, or in some other place there nere vnto, by the shewing of certeine Interludes, Plaies, or Tragedies, to procure the Assemblie of her Maiesties subiectp and people otherwise then in diuerse good respectp, and especially at this time by reason of daũger by the infecçon of sycknes is thoughte convenient: And otherwise then is agreable w<sup>th</sup> order therein geauen by the Lo:<sup>s</sup> of her Maiesties most Hono: pryvy Cownsell, (as by their l<sup>res</sup> therein prouided, and pleasures to haue the same co<sup>m</sup>unicated w<sup>th</sup> the Maior of the said Towne of Cambridge and his bretherne, and w<sup>th</sup> all others beinge Iustices of peace, and dwellinge w<sup>th</sup>in fyue myles of that Vniu'sytie, more at lardge appeereth) These shalbe to will and requere yo<sup>a</sup>, And by vertu of the said l<sup>res</sup>, in her Ma<sup>ties</sup> name straightlie to chardge and co<sup>m</sup>aund yo<sup>a</sup>, and either of yo<sup>a</sup>; That yf at this p<sup>r</sup>sent, ether they the said psons be repayred, or any other hereafter of like condiçon (dueringe the

time of yo<sup>r</sup> beinge in that offyce) do make their repaire, vnto that her Maiesties towne, to the foresaid end and purpose, w<sup>th</sup> indevo<sup>r</sup> there to putt suche their exercises in practise: That y<sup>m</sup>mediately therevpon yo<sup>u</sup> faile not, by vertue hereof, straightlie to inhibite all and euery the Inhabit<sup>un</sup>t<sup>p</sup> of the said towne, from the furtheringe and aydeinge of them or any of them in that their indevo<sup>r</sup>, As namely from the sufferinge of them, or of any of them to take the vse, of any their roomes, houses or yardes in that towne to that end and intent. As also that by vertue hereof yo<sup>u</sup> requeare the said parties so indeuoringe, not to proceed in the execu<sup>co</sup>n of that their purpose there, as they will answere the same at their perill. Straightlie chardgeinge yo<sup>u</sup> and either of yo<sup>u</sup> by vertue hereof, to bringe before vs y<sup>m</sup>mediately, or before some of vs, any, or euery such pson and psons as yo<sup>u</sup> shall finde not obeyinge the authority herein comitted vnto yo<sup>u</sup>, and to ether of yo<sup>u</sup>, as yo<sup>u</sup> will answere the same at yo<sup>r</sup> perill. Geauen at Cambridge vnder ou<sup>r</sup> handes and scales this ferste of September. 1592

By reason that Rychard Cobb the Constable was sycke the execu<sup>co</sup>n of this busines was comitted vnto Oliuer Reeue who delt therein in such sort as appeareth by the supplica<sup>co</sup>n vnto the L<sup>ds</sup> of her Maiesties most Honorable pryvy Cowncsell.

## XVI

[1592, December 4. The Vice-Chancellor and Heads of Houses at Cambridge to Lord Burghley (*Lansdowne MS.* 71, f. 204, art. 84). Printed in Collier, *H. E. D. P.*, i. 284, and Cooper, *Annals of Cambridge*, ii. 517. The Vice-Chamberlain was Sir Thomas Heneage. It may be supposed that Elizabeth's visit to Oxford in September, 1592 (cf. No. XVII), where she saw the *Bellum Grammaticale* and W. Gager's *Rivales*, had whetted her appetite for academic drama. The actual performers at court in the Christmas of 1592-3 were Lord Strange's and Lord Pembroke's men. It would seem, therefore, that neither University yielded to the wiles of the Vice-Chamberlain. John Still, Master of

Trinity, succeeded Robert Some as Vice-Chancellor in November, 1592. He is no longer regarded as the author of *Gammer Gurton's Needle*. Humphrey Tyndall was President of Queens', William Whitaker Master of St. John's, Edmund Barwell Master of Christ's, and John Jegon Master of Corpus Christi.]

Righte Honorable, ou<sup>r</sup> most humble duties remembred. Vpon Saturday last beinge the second of december, wee receaued l<sup>res</sup> from M<sup>r</sup> Vicechamberlein by A Messinger sent purposely; wherein, by reason that her Maiesties owne servantp, in this time of infection, may not disport her Highnes w<sup>th</sup> theire wonted and ordinary pastimes; his Ho: hath moued ou<sup>r</sup> Vniu'sity (as he writeth that he hath also done the other of Oxford) to prepare A Comedie in Englishe, to be acted before her Highnes, by some of ou<sup>r</sup> Studentp in this time of Christmas. How ready wee are to do any thinge that may tend to her Maiesties pleasure, wee are very desirous by all meanes to testyfy; But how fitt wee shalbe for this that is moued, havinge no practize in this Englishe vaine, and beinge (as we thinke) nothinge beseeinge ou<sup>r</sup> Studentp, specially oute of the Vniu'sity; wee much doubt; And do finde ou<sup>r</sup> principale Actors (whome wee haue of purpose called before vs) very vnwillinge to playe in Englishe; Wherefore wee thoughte it not only ou<sup>r</sup> duties, to giue intelligence hereof vnto yo<sup>r</sup> Lo:<sup>p</sup> as beinge ou<sup>r</sup> cheife hedd and governo<sup>r</sup>; but also very expedient for vs, to craue you<sup>r</sup> Lordships wisdome, either to disswade the matter w<sup>th</sup>oute any displeasure vnto vs, yf wee shall not seeme meete in yo<sup>r</sup> Lo:<sup>ps</sup> iudgment for that purpose; or to advise vs by yo<sup>r</sup> Honorable direc<sup>ti</sup>on, what ma<sup>n</sup>er of argument wee should chuse, and what course is best to follow. Englishe Comedies, for that wee neuer vsed any, wee presentlie haue none: To make or translate one in such shortnes of time, wee shall not be able; And therefore yf wee must needes vndertake the busines, and that w<sup>th</sup> conueniencie it may be grunted; These two thingp wee would gladly desire, some further limita<sup>ti</sup>on of time for due prepara<sup>ti</sup>on, And liberty to play in latyn. How fitt these are to be requested or gr<sup>u</sup>nted, yo<sup>r</sup> Lo:<sup>p</sup> who well knoweth her Ma<sup>ties</sup> disposi<sup>ti</sup>on, and ou<sup>r</sup> ma<sup>n</sup>er, is best able to iudge. Ou<sup>r</sup> selues only do moue them, referringe

both them, and the whole cause vnto yo<sup>r</sup> Lo:<sup>ps</sup> consideraçon. And so w<sup>th</sup> ou<sup>r</sup> most hartly prayers to Almightye god for yo<sup>r</sup> Lo:<sup>ps</sup> longe continuañce in healthe and dayly increase in Honor, wee humblie take ou<sup>r</sup> leaues. from the Vniu'sity of Cambridge this fourthe of december. 1592.

Your Lordships most humble to be coñmaunded

John Still vicechauncelor

Roger Goade.

R. Some.

Umphry Tyndall

Willm Whitaker.

Edmund Barwe[ ]

John Iegon

[Addressed] To the righte honorable ou<sup>r</sup> singuler good Lord, the Lo: Burghley Lord Highe Treasurer of England Chũncello<sup>r</sup> of the Vniu'sity of Cambridge.

[Endorsed] 4 December 1592

Vice Chauncler, and Heades of y<sup>e</sup> Vniuersitie of Cambridge Touching a lre sent to them by m<sup>r</sup> Vice Chamblaine for the prouiding of an Englishe Comedie to be acted by some of y<sup>e</sup> Vniuersite befor hir ma<sup>tie</sup> this Chřmas.

[44. Barwell, *last two letters cut away.*]

## XVII

[1593, July 17. The Vice-Chancellor and Heads of Houses at Cambridge to Lord Burghley (*Lansdowne MS.* 75, f. 10, art. 5). Printed in Strype, *Annals of the Reformation*, iv. No. 104, and Cooper, *Annals of Cambridge*, ii. 520. This letter renews the appeal of No. XV, and as a result the Privy Council wrote on July 29 to the University and to the Mayor and Justices of Cambridge, forbidding 'plaies or interludes of common plaiers' in or within five miles of the University, especially at Chesterton (Dasent, *Acts of the Privy Council*, xxiv. 427). Thomas Legge succeeded as Vice-Chancellor to John Still, who became Bishop of Bath

and Wells on February 11, 1593. Edmund Hound was Master of Catherine Hall, and John Duport Master of Jesus College.]

Righte Honorable, It is now longe since wee presumed to offer vnto you<sup>r</sup> good Lordshipp A supplication as toucheing A restraunte from publicke shewes and comen plaies to be deliuered by ou<sup>r</sup> Messingers vnto the LL:<sup>s</sup> of her Ma<sup>t</sup><sup>e</sup> most Honorable priuie Counsell, yf it shoulde so seeme meete vnto you<sup>r</sup> Hono<sup>r</sup>. The occasion (as wee thoughte) was then greate, w<sup>ch</sup> moued us therevnto, as namely the regard of ou<sup>r</sup> duty, in respect of the good safety of this place, wherew<sup>th</sup>all wee are putt in trust. And therefore havinge first resolued then to send some of ou<sup>r</sup> Body vnto the Vniu<sup>s</sup>ity of Oxford, there to obserue the intertainement giuen vnto her Maiestie: It seemed vnto vs not vnmeete, vpon the occasion of that oportunitie to haue ou<sup>r</sup> selues most humblic referred for that other also, vnto you<sup>r</sup> good Lo:<sup>ps</sup> most Honorable direction. If ether ou<sup>r</sup> selues erred in iudgement as toucheinge the fitnes of that time, or ou<sup>r</sup> Messingers, in forbearcinge there the solliciting of you<sup>r</sup> Hono<sup>r</sup> more then was meete; wee knowe not how otherwise to excuse it then by appealeinge vnto you<sup>r</sup> Honorable and accustomed good acceptu<sup>ce</sup>. W<sup>ch</sup> hath induced vs also at this time to vndertake the renewinge of that sute, the rather in regard of Gods greate goodnes towards vs, who havinge hitherto somewhat strangely preserved vs, from such infection, as hath greatly touched many other partp of this land; are the likelier to find the continuance thereof, yf by you<sup>r</sup> Honora: meanes wee may be freed from that badd kinde of people, who are (as wee thincke) the most ordynary Cariers and dispersers thereof. And so most humbly cravinge that it woulde please yo<sup>r</sup> good Lo:<sup>p</sup> as toucheinge the particulers of ou<sup>r</sup> desire to be referred vnto the copy of A letter w<sup>ch</sup> was by you<sup>r</sup> Lo:<sup>ps</sup> Honora: meanes long since procured for vs from the LL:<sup>s</sup> of her Maiesties most Honora: priuie Counsell, As also vnto this bearers speeche ou<sup>r</sup> Messinger, as toucheinge any thinge concerninge this matter wherein it shall further please you<sup>r</sup> good Lo:<sup>p</sup> to be informed: Wee do most humbly take ou<sup>r</sup> leaue, dayly prayeing for you<sup>r</sup> Lo:<sup>ps</sup> most Honorable longe

and happy preservation as wee are all most dutifully bownde.  
Cambridge the xvij<sup>th</sup> of Iulye. 1593.

You<sup>r</sup> Honorable Lo:<sup>ps</sup> most humblie to be co<sup>m</sup>maunded,

Umphry Tyndall  
Tho. Byng.  
Thomas Preston  
Laur: Chaderton

Thomas Legge vicecanc'  
R. Some.  
Edmund Hounde  
Thomas Nevile  
Edmund Barwell  
Io. Du. port

[Addressed] To the Righte Honorable and ou<sup>r</sup> singuler good  
Lord the Lo: Burghley Lord Highe Treasurer of England  
and Chüncello<sup>r</sup> of the Vniu'sitye of Cambridge giue these /

[Endorsed] 17. Iuly. 1593.

The Vicechancelo<sup>r</sup> & heades of y<sup>e</sup> Howses in Cambridge to my l.  
Towchinge y<sup>e</sup> restraint of shoves & plaies.

[43. Io. Du. port, *ornamental signature, hardly legible.*]

## XVIII

[c. 1593? Suggestions to the Privy Council against the Plague (*Lansdowne MS.* 74, f. 75, art. 36<sup>1</sup>). The date 1593 is assigned to this in the *Catalogue of Lansdowne Manuscripts*. It may likely enough have been motived by the plague of 1592-4.]

Articles presented to their Honors to be considered  
of, for provision and order aswell against the encrease of  
the plague, as also for Relief of poore people lame and  
wholle and vagrant people w<sup>ch</sup> daiely begge in the streetp.

- 1 It is thought convenient, yf it maye so stande, w<sup>th</sup> hir  
ma<sup>ty</sup> good pleasure, and their hono<sup>rs</sup> lykinge, that some  
conveniente number of publike howses of good Receipt  
shoulde be provided in fitt quarters and places w<sup>th</sup>in the  
Cittie, or w<sup>th</sup>out, for the Removing of the sounde from the  
infected. The sound to be removed thither out of any howses

infected, assoone as the infection is pceaved, and the infected to remaine in the howses where they fall sicke, And they dyeinge, the howse infected to be shutt vpp, for a convenient tyme, and so muche of their apparell beddinge and stuffe as maye not be reserved w<sup>th</sup>out great daunger, to be consumed w<sup>th</sup> fier, and the resydue to be washed, Ayred, and delt w<sup>th</sup> all in conveniente sorte.

- 2 The reason of this provision is, for that the order alreadye vsed when anie howse is knowen to be infected, to shutt vp the sound and infected together, semeth by experience rather to increase than decrease thinfection, ffor when manie be pestered together in a howse infected, coñonly for wante of rowme and shifte of beddes and beddinge, the sound and infected remayninge togeather, there doe verie fewe of them escape the infection, but the most dye, and the rest haue the disease, and verie hardlye escape with their lyves.
- 3 The order alreadye vsed for pvision of necessities (where neede shall require) for the householdes infected, of the coñon purse or charge of the pishe, is thought meete to be contynued, and women keepers to be appointed in everye pishe to attend the sicke, and not to suffer anie sounde persons to come to thinfecte, And severe order to be taken in everie parrishe, for suche keepers to be readye alwaies to attend (without refusall) where occasion shall requier, for that coñonlye in most pishes, in suche distres of householdes there be noe women, that will take that service vpon them.
- 4 There be certen howses aboute the Cittye which might be chosen and appointed for this service by hir Ma<sup>ty</sup> good helpe, and others mighte be erected in convenient places within the Cittye or without.
- 5 Theis howses to be prouided would be considered of, in sorte, that some maye be convenient for the better sorte of people that are hable to beare their owne charges, and the rest maie likewise serve for the poorer sorte that are not hable of themselves, nor haue freindes to beare their

chargp, And some convenient order to be taken for prouision of necessaries for those poore, out of the pishes from whence they shall come, or otherwise as shalbe thoughte more convenient.

- 6 In theis howses thus to be prouided, there would be order taken, that the sicke and the sound mighte be kept a sunder for the better avoydinge of great infection, as to haue severall sides or wardes, for the sound by themselves, to followe theire occupacons towarde theire maynetenaunce duringe theire abode there, and the infected to remaine by themselves duringe theire sicknes, as in Christp hospitall is alredie vsed, or some convenient lodgingp to be puided otherwise, not farre from those howses, to remove the infected vnto from the sound, with convenient provision of Physitions, Surgeons, and keepers, for sound, and sicke, Riche and poore, aswell in thinfected, as the not infected wardes and places of the said howses.
- 7 Yt is thoughte convenient that the Richer sorte, that haue gardeins or other convenient places for theire succor, and shall not neede to vse the meane of theis publike howses, should be ordered, to keepe theire sicke and sound a sunder in those theire gardeins, or other convenient places, and to abstayne from cominge themselves or sending any from them to the infected vntill the howses or places where they be kepte shalbe ayrd and put in plighte as shalbe conveniente in that case, And that no recourse be hadd of anie sounde to thinfected, but suche as be keepers or Minister phisick or Surgerie, and that noe apparrell beddinge or stufte, be suffered to be removed out of infected howses, except it be in case of verie great necessitie and then also to be firste ayred and vsed as shalbe most conveniente.
- 8 That for avoydinge of great concourse of people, w<sup>ch</sup> causeth increase of thinfection, y<sup>t</sup> were convenient, that all Playes, Bearebaytinges, Cockpittp, co<sup>m</sup>on Bowlinge alleyes, and suche like vnnesessarie assemblies should be suppressed



duringe the tyme of infection, for that infected people, after their longe keepinge in, and before they be clered of their disease and infection, beinge desirous of recreaçon, vse to resort to suche assemblies, where throughe heate and thronge, they infecte manie sound personnes.

- 9 Order to be taken for the pavinge and keepinge cleane of the streetes, and for the washinge of the Kennellp, morninge and Eveninge, w<sup>th</sup> freshe water, and for a severe survey for Inmates, in all wardes and precinctp in the Cittie and subburbes, and where any howse is found over-pestered withe peopell, convenient order to be seuerely executed for redresse thereof.
- 10 That all comon Alehouses, and victuallinge houses, where evill resorte of companie is, should be suppressed duringe the tyme of infection, and that order should be taken for thavoydinge of forestallers and other disordered psons that they shall not keepe markett in the Streetp, as disorderly they haue accustomed daiely to doe, Saveinge onely on vsuall markett daies, duringe the m'kett tyme onely, and also order to be taken for restraunte of those that lett out Cellars, and sheddes vnder stalles, where herbes, Rootes, frutes, bread and victualles are noysomlye kept till they be stale, and vnholosome for mans bodie, and then mingled w<sup>th</sup> freshe wares of the same kynde, are broughte fourth into the markettp, and there sould to the great decepte and hurte of the people.
- 11 Order would be taken for the soile w<sup>ch</sup> by daie and nighte is carried fourth of the Cittie, yt would be conveyed and layde in places farther of from the Cittie, and more convenient, then nowe coñonlie it is, ffor her maiesties subiectp in and aboute the Citye walkinge by those places, where yt is nowe layde, too neere the Citty, after their sicknes or labour, to take their Recreaçon at gardens and in the feildes, as they passe by those noysome laystallp, are muche ānoyed, and often infected, to their great hurte. And yt is to be feared that a number of poore people

chargp, And some convenient order to be taken for prouision of necessaries for those poore, out of the pishes from whence they shall come, or otherwise as shalbe thoughte more convenient.

- 6 In theis howses thus to be prouided, there would be order taken, that the sicke and the sound mighte be kept a sunder for the better avoydinge of great infection, as to haue severall sides or wardes, for the sound by themselues, to followe theire occupaçons towarde theire maynetenaunce duringe theire abode there, and the infected to remaine by themselues duringe theire sicknes, as in Christp hospitall is alredie vsed, or some convenient lodgingp to be puided otherwise, not farre from those howses, to remove the infected vnto from the sound, with convenient provision of Physitions, Surgeons, and keepers, for sound, and sicke, Riche and poore, aswell in thinfecte, as the not infected wardes and places of the said howses.
- 7 Yt is thoughte convenient that the Richer sorte, that haue gardeins or other convenient places for theire succo<sup>r</sup>, and shall not neede to vse the meane of theis publike howses, should be ordered, to keepe theire sicke and sound a sunder in those theire gardeins, or other convenient places, and to absteyne from cominge themselues or sending any from them to the infected vntill the howses or places where they be kepte shalbe ayrd and put in plighte as shalbe conveniente in that case, And that no recourse be hadd of anie sounde to thinfecte, but suche as be keepers or Minister phisick or Surgerie, and that noe apparrell beddinge or stufte, be suffered to be removed out of infected howses, except it be in case of verie great necessitie and then also to be firste ayred and vsed as shalbe most conveniente.
- 8 That for avoydinge of great concourse of people, w<sup>ch</sup> causeth increase of thinfection, y<sup>t</sup> were convenient, that all Playes, Bearebaytinges, Cockpittp, coñon Bowlinge alleyes, and suche like vnnessaric assemblies should be suppressed

duringe the tyme of infection, for that infected people, after theire longe keepinge in, and before they be clered of their disease and infection, beinge desirous of recreaçon, vse to resort to suche assemblies, where throughe heate and thronge, they infecte manie sound personnes.

- 9 Order to be taken for the pavinge and keepinge cleane of the streetes, and for the washinge of the Kennellp, morninge and Eveninge, w<sup>th</sup> freshe water, and for a severe survey for Inmates, in all wardes and precinctp in the Cittie and subburbes, and where any howse is found over-pestered withe peopell, convenient order to be seuerely executed for redresse thereof.
- 10 That all comon Alchowses, and victuallinge houses, where evill resorte of companie is, should be suppressed duringe the tyme of infection, and that order should be taken for thavoydinge of forestallers and other disordered psons that they shall not keepe markett in the Streetp, as disorderly they haue accustomed daiely to doe, Savinge onely on vsuall markett daies, duringe the m'kett tyme onely, and also order to be taken for restraunte of those that lett out Cellars, and sheddesh vnder stalles, where herbes, Rootes, frutes, bread and victualles are noysomlye kept till they be stale, and vnholsome for mans bodie, and then mingled w<sup>th</sup> freshe wares of the same kynde, are broughte fourth into the markettp, and there sould to the great decepte and hurte of the people.
- 11 Order would be taken for the soile w<sup>ch</sup> by daie and nighte is carried fourth of the Cittie, yt would be conveyed and layde in places farther of from the Cittie, and more convenient, then nowe coñonlie it is, ffor her maiesties subiectp in and aboute the Citye walkinge by those places, where yt is nowe layde, too neere the Citty, after their sicknes or labour, to take their Recreaçon at gardens and in the feildes, as they passe by those noysome laystallp, are muche ānoyed, and often infected, to their great hurte. And yt is to be feared that a number of poore people

lyvinge by Rootes, Turnips, herbes, and suche like, are infected by the evill iuyce of suche Rootes and herbes as are sown vppon those corrvpte laystallp & groundes, w<sup>ch</sup> manie gardiners and others of late haue practized to sowe, before they haue layne a convenient tyme to Rott and be fitt for manuringe. ffor redresse whereof order would be sett downe for the carriage of this soyle by lande or water into places to be appoynted further of from the Citty, and gardeners and others to be restrayned from plantinge vppon any Laystall before yt be sufficientlye meete for that purpose.

- 12 That order mighte be taken for poore people Lane and wholle, maymed souldiers, and vagrant people that begg in the streetes beinge for the most pte infected and diseased people and a great cause of encrease of infection, that they mighte be receaved into publike howses, to be appointed for that use, and there relieved cured and sett on woorke to the great ease of the Cittie, accordinge to suche good orders as maye be sett downe for that purpose, whereof divers Articles tendinge to that effecte are readye to be shewed.

[Endorsed] Aduices to decrease the Plage & to relieve the poore vagrant people.

## XIX

[c. 1593? Orders in time of Plague (*Lansdowne MS.* 74, f. 69, art. 33). The date 1593 is assigned in the *Catalogue of the Lansdowne Manuscripts* to these orders and also to No. XX. Possibly these are the 'breif' enclosed with the latter. Unfortunately the Privy Council Register is missing between August 26, 1593, and October 1, 1595. The entries for the earlier part of 1593 (*Dasent, Acts of the Privy Council*, xxiv), while showing that the Council was in constant communication with the local authorities in and round London touching the plague, do not throw any direct light on the present document.]

London. Orders to be sett downe by the Lo: Maior & Aldermen of London, for taking awaie such enormities, as be

meanes not onelie to contynew, but increase the plage & disorders of the Cyttye, being taken out of the pclamaçons sett out by the Cyttye, & the articles sett downe for providinge for the poore and settinge them to worke.

Aldermen or there deputies.

- .1. To gyve charge to Churche wardens, Constables, pishe Clarkp Sextons and Bedellp to enquire what howses be infected.
- .2. To visitt the ward often to see orders observed, especiallie towching cleanes in the streetp.
- .3. The Aldermen or there deputies in there owne psons to appoint Surveyo<sup>r</sup> monethlie in everye pishe.
- .4. To appoint that certificat maie be made to them what howses be infected.
- .5. To gyve charge to all teachers of children that (as nere as they can) they pmitt no children to come to there scoles from infected howses, especiallie till such howses haue bene clere by the space of xxviij daies, and that none kepe a greater number than there Roomes shalbe thought fitt by y<sup>r</sup> Aldermen or there deputies to conteyne.

Surveyours:

- .1. To see the orders for the sicke, executed daylie and diligentlie vpon knowledge frome the Aldermen what howses be infected.
- .2. To appoint purveyo<sup>r</sup> of necessities for infected howses (being of y<sup>r</sup> same howses) and deliu' them reed rodde to carrie, & see that none other resorte to there howses.

Constables.

- .1. To bring every daie notice in writing to the Aldermen or there deputies what howses be infected.

Constable & Churchwarden.

- .1. To provyde to haue in readines, wemen to be provyders & deliu'ers of necessities to infected howses, & to attend the

infected psons and they to beare reed wandes so that the sicke maie be kept frome the whole, as nere as maie be, nedefull attendannc weyed.

### Constable and Bedell.

- .1. To enquire what howses be infected.
- .2. To vew dailie that paps remayne vpon dores xxviij daies or to place newe.

### Clarkes and Sextons:

- .1. To vnderstand what howses be infected.
- .2. To see billp sett vpon the dores of howses infected.
- .3. To suffer no corpes infected to be buried or remayne in the churche duringe prayer or sermon, & to kepe children frome cominge nere them.

### Skavengers and Rakers:

- .1. To see the streetp made cleane every daie saving sonday & y<sup>e</sup> soile to be carried awaie.
- .2. To warne all Inhabitantp against there howses, to kepe channellp clere frome fylth (by onelie turning yt asyde) that the water maie haue passage.

### Common Hunt.

- .1. To kyll dogges &c' or to loose his place.

### Howshoulders and Howses.

- .1. Howses having some sicke thoughte none die, or frome whence some sicke haue bene removed, are infected howses, & such are to be shutt upp for a moneth.
- .2. The whole familie to tarrie in xxviij daies.
- .3. To kepe shutt the lower romes for the like space.
- .4. One licensed to go for proviçon &c'.
- .5. No clothes hanged into the streetp.
- .6. Such as have wellp or pumpes, every morning by six and every evening after eight a clocke, shall cause ten buckettp full to rune into the streetp.

- .7. Every evening at that howre the streetp and channellp to be made cleane, the water not swept out of the channell, nor the streetp overwett but sprinkled. &c'.
- .8. The howses infected and thingp in them to be ayered in the xxvij daies, and no clothes or thingp about the infected psons to be geven awaie or sould, but either distroyed or sufficientlie purified.
- .9. Owners of howses infected w<sup>th</sup> there familie, maie w<sup>th</sup>in the moneth depte to any there howses in the Countrey, or to any other howse in the Cyttye w<sup>th</sup>out being shutt vpp, so they abstayne frome retourninge to the Cyttye, or frome goinge abrode out of house in the Cyttye, for a moneth.
- .10. None shall kepe dogg or bitche abrode vnled nor w<sup>th</sup>in howling or disturbing of there neighbours.
- .11. To haue no assemblie at funerall dynn's or vsuall meting in howses infected.
- .12. None shall for a moneth come into infected howses, but such as be of the howse & licensed to do service abrode.
- .13. No donghillp out of stables, Bearchowses or other places to be made in y<sup>r</sup> strete.
- .14. To haue dowble tyme of Restraint for consenting to pull downe hillp and the taker awaie suffer imprisonment for viij daies.

Two Vewers of dead bodies.

Two Vewers of sick suspected.

Shalbe appointed and sworne.

These vewers to reporte to the Constable, he to the Clarke, and he to the cheife of Clarkp all vpon paine of imprisonment. A paine of standing on the pillorye for false reports by the vewers. A losse of pençon to such as shall refuse.

Mendinge of Pavements.

That diligent care be had, that pavementp be amended where nede is, and that principall paviors be appointed to survey the wantp of paving, especiallie in Channellp, and

## DRAMATIC RECORDS

that the dwellers against such maie be forced to amend them.

## Interludes and plaies.

If the increase of the sicknes be feared, that Interludes & plaies be restreyned w<sup>th</sup>in the libertyes of the Cyttye

## Phisiçons and Surgeons.

That skilfull and learned phisicons and chirurgions maie be provided to minister to the sicke.

## Vagrant, Maisterles, and poore people:

1. That all such as be diseased be sent to S<sup>t</sup> Thomas or S<sup>t</sup> Bartylmewes hospitall, there to be first cured & made cleane, & afterward<sup>p</sup> those w<sup>ch</sup> be not of the Cyttye to be sent awaie according to the statute in that case pvided, and the other to be sett to worke, in such trades as are lest vsed by the Inhabitant<sup>p</sup> of the Cyttye, for the avoyding of all such vagrant psons, aswell children male and female, Souldiers lame and maymed, as other idle & loytering psons that swarme in the street<sup>p</sup> and wander vpp and downe begging, to the great<sup>d</sup> daunger and infecting of the Cyttye for thincrase of the plage, and annoyannce to the same.
2. That all maisterlesse men who lyve idelie in the Cyttye w<sup>th</sup>out any lawfull calling, frequenting places of cōmon assemblies, as Interludes, gaming howses, cockpitt<sup>p</sup>, bowling allies, and such other places, maie be banished the Cyttye according to the lawes in that case provided.

All w<sup>ch</sup> orders aforesaid the Aldermen and there deputies are every one in there place to see pformed, both in themselves and others, and in cases of dowbt, to yeild there opinions and gyve direcōn.

[Endorsed.] Orders to be sett downe of the lord Maior.  
For repressing of disorders and relcief of y<sup>e</sup> poore.



XX

[1594, c. July-October. The Privy Council to Sir Richard Martin, Lord Mayor (*Lansdowne MS.* 74, f. 71, art. 34). Sir Cuthbert Buckle died on July 1, 1594 (*Index to Remembrancia*, 315), and Martin was elected Lord Mayor for the rest of 1593-4. He had previously served, in similar circumstances, during the latter part of 1588-9. It appears by a letter of November 30, 1594, from the Lord Mayor to the Middlesex and Surrey Justices, which is preserved in *Remembrancia*, ii. 75 (*Index*, 358), that as a result of the present communication the City took steps to call a conference of local authorities.]

After o<sup>r</sup> very hertye cōmendaçōns to yo<sup>r</sup> good Lo<sup>p</sup>: Whereas at the knighting of yo<sup>r</sup> predicessor S<sup>r</sup> Cuthbert Buckle nowe laitelie deceased, y<sup>t</sup> was her ma<sup>tie</sup>s gracious pleasure, that the Lo: Kep should not onelie laie open to him the Lo: Maior, yo<sup>r</sup> Lo<sup>p</sup>: being then present, and all such yo<sup>r</sup> brethren as were there at that tyme, the small care yt seamed was had emongest yo<sup>w</sup> of the government of the estaite of the Cittye (as in not seking good and godlie meanes, for preventing the contynewaunce and increase of the infecçōn of the plage and not providing for the poore Souldiers & others that swarmed in multitudes in yo<sup>r</sup> streete, according to the good intent and meaning of the graunt of King Ed. the vj, who by the advise of yo<sup>r</sup> whole Cyttye did not onelie establish good orders for the maintenaunce of the poore of all sortes but gave great renews toward<sup>e</sup> the effecting and contynewaunce of the same) w<sup>th</sup> manie other thinge of no small moment: but also her ma<sup>tie</sup> frome her owne mowthe did then signifie as much as w<sup>th</sup> greife before she had hard, namelie that there came mo vagrant people and maisterlesse men in at the gates of London, and were w<sup>th</sup>in the Cyttye, then w<sup>th</sup>in iiii<sup>j</sup><sup>or</sup> score myles round about the same, hertelie wishing a better care then before had bene used for redresse of those enormyties, w<sup>th</sup> request (her highes did thincke) should haue bene taken as an expresse cōmaundement and therefore since that tyme haith dailie expected, that she should heare of the establishm<sup>t</sup> of some good orders for the redresse of the

disorders then maid knowne unto yo<sup>w</sup>, and the rather for that yt pleased her highnes to sh[ ] yo<sup>w</sup> that w<sup>ch</sup> she said yo<sup>w</sup> knew not, as namelie that there were such people kept and fostered in the Cyttye as would be the distruccon & subversion of the same, w<sup>ch</sup> her ma<sup>tie</sup> said she hoped never to see in her tyme, And therevpon willed yo<sup>w</sup> to be more carefull, & to looke better to yo<sup>r</sup> governem<sup>t</sup> for y<sup>e</sup> redresse of the same. Nowe since the cheife rule in that her Ma<sup>ties</sup> Cyttye is by cōmon consent laid upon yo<sup>r</sup> Lo<sup>p</sup>: who heretofore haith borne the said office, and therefore knoweth better howe to deale in these affaires, her highnes doth expect yo<sup>r</sup> service and diligence herein and therevpon haith geven vs in charge to require and cōmaunde yo<sup>w</sup>, to call vnto yo<sup>w</sup> such and so manie of yo<sup>r</sup> brethren and others, as yo<sup>w</sup> hould fitt for this service to taik order for all matters then laide open both by her highnes her self & the Lo: Kep, as also for all other thing<sup>p</sup> nedefull for the government of the Cyttye wherein her highnes p<sup>m</sup>iseth her gracious helpe and assistaunce, and we wilbe redye to do yo<sup>w</sup> therein any favour or furtheraunce we can. And for yo<sup>r</sup> Lo<sup>p</sup>': better pceding in this work we haue hereinlosed sent yo<sup>w</sup> a breif of such orders as we hould fitt to be putt in practise in yo<sup>r</sup> said Cyttye, wherevnto yo<sup>w</sup> maie add mo as shalbe thought nedefull, w<sup>ch</sup> we hope wilbe by yo<sup>r</sup> Lo<sup>p</sup>: so recōmended to the whole Cyttye, and by yo<sup>r</sup> brethren the Aldermen and there officers so carefullie putt in execucon as hereafter there shall not nede any more speache or further cōmaudem<sup>t</sup> for that matter. And thus not dowbting but yo<sup>r</sup> Lo<sup>p</sup>: will do yo<sup>r</sup> best indeavour, aswell for the satisfying of her ma<sup>ties</sup> expectacon, as for the establishment of a good and gōdlic governem<sup>t</sup> in the said Cyttye, w<sup>ch</sup> no dowbt will redound to the comforte and benefitt of the whole Cyttye, we byd yo<sup>w</sup> hertelie well to faire.

[Endorsed.] A copie of a lre frome the lords of the counsell to S<sup>r</sup> Richard Martyn knight lo: Maior

XXI

[1595, January 28. The Master and Fellows of Trinity College, Cambridge, to Lord Burghley (*Lansdowne MS.* 78, f. 34, art. 16). Printed in Collier, *H. E. D. P.*, i. 286, H. Ellis, *Original Letters*, i. 3, 33, and Cooper, *Annals of Cambridge*, ii. 529. The occasion appears from *Baker MS.*, xxxii. 529, quoted by Cooper, to have been the Commencement of February 28, at which the Earls of Shrewsbury, Rutland, and Essex and other peers and knights received degrees, and two comedies and a tragedy were given at Trinity and a comedy at Queens.]

Our bounden dutie in most humble wise remembred. Whereas we intend for the exercise of yonge gentlemen, and scholers in o<sup>r</sup> Colledge, to sett forth certaine Comædies and one Tragædie, there being in that Tragædie sondry personages of greatest astate, to be represented in Auncient princely attire, w<sup>ch</sup> is no where to be had but w<sup>th</sup>in the office of the Roabes at the Tower: it is our humble request yo<sup>r</sup> most honorable Lo: would be pleased, to graunte yo<sup>r</sup> Lordships warrant vnto the cheife Officers there, that vpon sufficient securitie we might be furnished from thence, w<sup>th</sup> such meete necessaries, as are required. W<sup>ch</sup> favo<sup>r</sup> we have found heretofore vpon yo<sup>r</sup> good Lo: like honorable warrant: that hath the rather enbouldned vs at this time. And so cravinge pardon for this presumption, w<sup>th</sup> remembrance of o<sup>r</sup> dayly prayers vnto God, for the preservaçon of y<sup>r</sup> Ho: health to his owne greate glory, we humbly take our leave, ffrom Trinitie Colledge in Cambridge .28<sup>o</sup>. Ianuarij 1594.

Yo<sup>r</sup> Ho: most bounden  
 ever to be commaunded  
 Thomas Nevile  
 George Lee.  
 Ie<sup>r</sup>. Radcliffe.  
 Iohn Sledd.  
 Ire: Milner  
 Guli: Hall  
 Samuel Heron.  
 Cuthbart Norris  
 F f

[Addressed] To the right honorable our verie singuler good Lord the Lo: Burghley Lord heigh Treasurer of England.

[Endorsed, the date being hidden by the mounting paper]  
The m<sup>r</sup> & fellowes of Trinity Colledge in Cambridge.  
To borrowe apparrell owt of y<sup>e</sup> Tower to furnish theire Tragedies & Commedies.

## XXII

[n. d. Francis Bacon to an unknown correspondent (*Launsdowne MS.* 107, f. 13, art. 8). Printed in Collier, *H. E. D. P.*, i. 262, and J. Spedding, *Works of Bacon*, ii. 370; iv. 394. Spedding took this letter at first as addressed to Burghley, and thought that a letter described by E. Lodge, *Illustrations of British History*, App. 79, as written by Bacon to the Earl of Shrewsbury on October 15, 1596, from Gray's Inn, 'to borrow a horse and armour for some public show,' might refer to the same occasion. Afterwards he was inclined to regard it as a letter to the Earl of Somerset in reference to the *Mask of Flowers*, by J. G., W. D., and T. B. (printed in H. A. Evans, *English Masques*, 100), presented by Gray's Inn at Bacon's cost on January 6, 1614, during the festivities for Somerset's wedding with Lady Frances Howard (Brotanek, *Die englischen Maskenspiele*, 350). If so, the Lord Chamberlain in question will be the bride's father, the Earl of Suffolk. The last Gray's Inn mask had been that in conjunction with the Inner Temple at the Princess Elizabeth's wedding on February 20, 1613. The weakness of this theory is that the letter is bound up in the Launsdowne collection with Burghley's papers, and is endorsed 'Mr. Fr. Bacon', whereas Bacon was knighted on July 23, 1603.]

Yt may please yo<sup>r</sup> good L. I am sory the joynt maske from the fowr Innes of Cowrt faileth. whearin I conceyue thear is no other grownd of that euent, but impossibility. Neuerthelesse bycause it falleth owt that at this tyme Graies Inne is well furnyshed, of galant yowng gentlemen, yo<sup>r</sup> Ip may be pleased to know, that rather then this occasion shall passe withowt some demonstration of affection from the Inns of Cowrt, Thear are a dozen gentlemen of Graies Inne, that owt of the honor which they bear to yo<sup>r</sup> l., and my l. Chamberlayne to whome at theyr last maske they were so much bownde, will be ready to furnysh

a maske wyshing it were in their powers to performe it according  
to theyr mynd. And so for the p<sup>r</sup>sent I humbly take my leaue  
resting

yo<sup>r</sup> l<sup>ps</sup> very humbly  
and much bownde

Fr. Bacon

[Endorsed] M<sup>r</sup> Fr. Bacon















